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Japan

Growing Doubts Over Security Treaty With U.S.

OW1906024090 Tokyo KYODO in English 2329 GMT 18 Jun 90

[By Chikako Mogi]

[Text] Tokyo, June 18 KYODO—As Japan and the United States prepare to mark the 30th anniversary of their defense alliance this week, a national debate is brewing here on what to do with a security treaty born after Japan regained its postwar independence and revised at the height of the cold war.

The left, as represented by the Japan Socialist Party and the Japan Communist Party, wants it scrapped, maintaining a decades-old argument that Japan should be disengaged from any military bloc.

The Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], which has ruled the country for most of the postwar years, is officially committed to the revised 1960 mutual security treaty, which, as successive LDP governments maintain, forms the backbone of Japan's national security.

However, with the cold war now winding down in the West and new economic realities emerging between the two allies, politicians within the LDP and foreign-policy analysts doubt whether the treaty could or should survive intact in its present form.

Some say the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty—like the two major military blocs in Europe—has outlived its time, arguing that Japan, with its new-found economic muscle, should break away from its American tutelage and strike out on a foreign policy independent of the framework of the security treaty.

Advocates of keeping the treaty intact regardless of current political changes in the world argue that relations between Japan and the U.S. are too important for either side to tinker with in their security pact. "Although the military aspect of the treaty may be receding, the political and economic sides will become more prominent," said former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

Abe, one of the 14 currently active LDP Diet members who witnessed the stormy passage of the revised security treaty in 1960, has been designated by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu as the special envoy to represent Japan in the ceremonies in Washington on Saturday to mark the anniversary of the treaty.

Koichi Kato, a former Defense Agency chief and a rising star within the LDP, said the treaty provides a "mechanism of mutual trust" between the countries at a time when their ties are rocked by trade disputes.

Others in the LDP disagree. Shizuka Kamei, a member of the "hawkish" LDP wing under novelist-turned politician Shintaro Ishihara, argues that it is time for the Japanese to part with the U.S.-will-protect-us mentality and build up their own national defense. "The Americans and the Soviets will not move a finger unless their own survival is at stake. That was the essence of the Malta summit" between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in December, Kamei said.

As with politicians, foreign-policy analysts are also at loggerheads over "Anpo"—as the security treaty is known in Japan. Takeso Shimoda, a deputy foreign minister at the time the treaty was revised in 1960, said the treaty is absolutely necessary for an economically powerful but militarily weak Japan. "Japan can speak its mind in international affairs only because its position is aligned with that of the U.S., which has what Japan lacks—a military deterrent," Shimoda said.

He suggested that Japan, with only a "scanty" military force of 240,000 men that is a fraction of the mammoth Soviet military machine, could not even raise its territorial dispute with Moscow without explicit support from Washington. "Japan would be ridiculed if it demanded the return of the northern territories without the support of the security treaty," said Shimoda, who served as ambassador to the Soviet Union in 1964-1965 and the U.S. in 1967-1970.

Shimoda, however, argued that national security does not consist entirely of military strength and said Japan—with a GNP that has grown from one tenth to more than half that of the U.S. in 30 years—should commit its economic and technological resources to strengthening industrial and economic structures in its Asian neighbors. "That kind of service will become fundamentally important for Japan's national security," he said.

Some critics, however, say that the military alliance has outlived its usefulness in the light of global detente and that the security treaty should be dismantled. They also deny arguments that the security treaty has played a role in holding down Japan's military buildup or that the treaty is still valid as a basic framework for political and economic cooperation between Japan and the United States.

"The economic clause in the treaty defines economic cooperation to serve the purpose of a military alliance," said Yoshikazu Sakamoto, professor of international politics at Meiji Gakuin University and a disarmament expert.

Motofumi Asai, a former director of the Foreign Ministry's China Division, agrees. "The treaty is a military alliance through and through, and even when you look at it upside down, it is not meant to be a political alliance," he said. Asai, an international politics professor at Nihon University, argues that Japan-U.S. economic relations are no longer subjugated to the security treaty. They are governed by such international economic institutions as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, he said.

He warned that keeping the security treaty entailed "threatening elements" and Japan, under its commitment to the treaty, will inevitably be involved in a U.S. military strategy that may come into conflict with the interests of regional states.

"The treaty did not deter, but rather encouraged, Japan's military buildup," Asai said, pointing to the fact that Japan now has the world's third largest defense budget after the U.S. and the Soviet Union. He said a Japanese-U.S. agreement to develop a new generation of fighters has alarmed its Asian neighbors which still remember Japan's militarist past.

Sakamoto urged the government to take the initiative in creating a new framework for Japan-U.S. relations completely independent of the military dimension. The security issue should now be considered within the context of the role bilateral relations will play in future international affairs, he said.

"What is at issue is Japan's awakening to the reality that whether a new order is created in the region depends on how Japan treats the security treaty in the light of global detente," Sakamoto said.

U.S. Agrees To Return Military Land in Okinawa

OW1906130990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—The United States on Tuesday, pressed by Japan, agreed to return 853 hectares of land from U.S. military facilities on Okinawa to Japanese ownership. The accord, which comes just days before the 30th anniversary of formalized security ties between the two countries, is a step toward fulfilling commitments to return 23 percent of U.S. lands on Okinawa that were made in the mid-1970s.

The 853 hectares are part of some 5,600 hectares of U.S. base land that has been the focus of negotiated return since the 1970 return of the Okinawan Islands to Japan. Fifty-four percent of that land, or about 3,000 heactares, has remained in U.S. hands because of a lack of appropriate replacement land. Agreements reached in the mid-1970s over the return of the land stipulate that other sites in Japan must be found to compensate for the land loss.

Tuesday's accord dismisses the requirement for compensatory land. Negotiations are continuing over the fate of the remaining 2,147 hectares that remain in U.S. hands.

The 853 new hectares to be returned are spread throughout 23 different locations in 17 facilities and include a 44.8-hectare golf course and several areas along roadways.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu welcomed the completion of the accord as a step forward and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, in a Diet session the same day, promised to work toward the further return of unnecessary lands.

The large number of U.S. facilities, Nakayama said, had created hardships, disrupting the lives of surrounding residents. State Minister for Okinawan Development, Shigetami Sunada, pressed for the return of the remaining land to contribute to the further development of the prefecture.

Foreign Ministry spokeman Taizo Watanabe said the accord could "be considered a response to the request of the local residents," and praised U.S. efforts to resolve the problem. The partial return of base lands, he said, was "necessary for the smooth operation of the U.S.-Japan security mechanism."

Local opposition to the U.S. presence is strong. A recent poll of Okinawan residents shows that 60 percent think that the U.S. bases are unnecessary or are a danger to Japan's security. One resident said the U.S. had "only returned unneeded facilities" and added that he wasn't satisfied considering the easing of tensions worldwide.

The return partially meets demands by Okinawa Governor Junji Nishime that were presented to the U.S. in the spring of 1988, coming 10 years after the U.S.-Japan Security Consultation Committee approved the return. Conservative Nishime faces a tough reelection battle this fall against a local progressive, and the return of base lands is likely to be a major campaign issue.

Some 35,000 of the 50,000 U.S. military personnel stationed in Japan are located in Okinawa. Cuts of 5,000 to 6,000 U.S. troops over the next three years announced in February are expected to include some Okinawan forces.

U.S. military facilities occupy over 20 percent of Okinawa's main island.

Letter to Bush Pledges 'Utmost Effort' for SII

OW1606050190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0422 GMT 16 Jun 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] San Francisco, June 15 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has written a letter to U.S. President George Bush, pledging Japan's "utmost effort" to produce a satisfactory final report on the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII), a high-ranking Japanese official said here Friday.

The official said the foreign minister delivered the Kaifu letter to Secretary of State James Baker during their talks at a hotel here.

"The Japanese Government will make its utmost effort toward a final report," the official quoted Kaifu as stating in his letter to Bush.

The Kaifu letter followed a joint letter by Baker and five other U.S. cabinet members to their Japanese counterparts seeking further progress in the protracted SII talks.

Japanese and U.S. officials said Nakayama and Baker agreed to produce a final SII report at a high-level meeting in Tokyo on June 25-26.

Launched nearly a year ago, the SII calls for eliminating structural barriers to trade and investment in both economies.

Baker told reporters after three hours of talks with Nakayama that the U.S. expects a final SII report to go beyond an interim report, which was issued in April.

"The interim report was just that—an interim report," Baker said. "The final report will, just by the very definition of it, contain some things that the interim report doesn't contain."

Sensing the explosive nature of a recent report by the Finance Ministry's advisory panel on the need for Japan's current account surplus, Nakayama told Baker that the Japanese Government does not share the report's conclusion.

The advisory report said Japan needs a current account surplus to help finance foreign aid to Eastern Europe and global economic growth.

Baker, a former treasury secretary, "was encouraged" by Nakayama's explanation, a senior U.S. official said.

U.S. Ambassador Meets JSP Chairwoman Doi

OW1406152890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1327 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—U.S. Ambassador Michael Armacost indicated Thursday that the United States is ready to take the initiative in improving ties with North Korea.

Armacost told Japan Socialist Party (JSP) leader Takako Doi in a meeting Thursday that improvement of ties with North Korea is a matter of high priority to the U.S., JSP officials said.

Armacost was quoted as saying that Pyongyang is changing its attitude and that it is important the U.S. provides incentives to North Korea.

The envoy confirmed reports that U.S. officials had a meeting with North Korean officials in Beijing on Wednesday as part of continuing dialogue between the two countries, JSP officials said.

Doi told Armacost she will, on her part, press the Japanese Government to ease strains in bilateral relations with North Korea, adding she will remind Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of the importance of maintaining a channel of communication with North Korea, they said.

They said Doi also indicated to Armacost that she may visit the U.S. in September.

Kaifu Sees Soviet Treaty After Year 2000

OW1606044490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0317 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Moscow, June 16 KYODO—Japan's Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has predicted in a published report that Japan and the Soviet Union are likely to conclude a peace treaty in the next century and that economic relations between the two nations may rival that of Japan and the United States.

"Japan - Soviet relations must enter into a new chapter in the 21st century, and a peace treaty will be concluded then," Kaifu said in an interview with the Soviet government newspaper IZVESTIYA. A story on the interview was published on Friday. Kaifu told IZVESTIYA that once the peace treaty is in place, "Japan - Soviet economic relations will be raised to the level of Japan - U.S. economic relations."

On the territorial dispute over several Soviet - held islands off Hokkaido, Kaifu was quoted as saying these "relics of World War II" must not be passed to the next generation. "We must not take them off the political agenda only because it is difficult to find a settlement," Kaifu said, a reference to arguments in the Soviet Union that the issue should be shelved for the time being. On Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's planned visit to Japan in 1991, Kaifu said he would like a detailed discussion of ways to bring about "a fundamental improvement" in bilateral ties.

Ministry on Plan To Back East European Reforms

OW1406134790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1004 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry has begun work on drafting a five-year plan aimed at supporting economic reforms in Eastern Europe, ministry officials said Thursday.

The plan, subject to negotiations with the Finance Ministry and other government agencies, would form Japan's own project to help East European nations change their economies toward market-oriented ones, the officials told KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

The scheme would feature four pillars—offering policy advice to enable a smooth change from socialist economies to those based on markets, cooperating in management of privatized companies, promoting investment and providing means to protect the environment, they said.

The plan, if approved, would be presented by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to a meeting of 24 industrial nations slated for early July in Brussels on hammering out ways to help East European nations move away from communist systems, the officials said.

They said Japan would also explain the plan to leaders of six other industrial nations when they meet in Houston, Texas, July 9-11.

Japanese-Chinese Steel Talks Set for 14 Jun

OW1306141490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1309 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Major Japanese steelmakers will begin negotiations with China in Tokyo on Thursday over the price and quantity of ordinary steel products for shipment to the Communist nation in the second half of this fiscal year, steel industry sources said Wednesday.

The talks between the integrated mills, including Nippon Steel Corp., and China National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corp. will center on pricing, the sources said.

The Japanese mills are hoping to raise their offer price, citing higher prices of raw materials, but the Chinese company is likely to ask for a sizable price cut on grounds of softening prices in the international steel market.

Japanese steel shipments to China in the first half of the current fiscal year, which began on April 1, are expected to average 100,000 tons a month, well below those of the same period of the preceding year. The decline has resulted from economic adjustments in China, the sources said.

For the second half of the current fiscal year, however, the monthly shipment will recover to an average 120,000-150,000 tons, some industry executives said, pointing to increasing supplies from Japan to China in recent months.

Further on Visit by Mexican President Salinas

Meets MITI Minister

OW1906083190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0652 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—Japan will provide up to 300 million yen as trade insurance to cover the risks involved in Japanese trading houses' imports from Mexico, government officials said Tuesday.

International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto proposed the scheme to visiting Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari in a meeting at the Imperial Hotel, officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said.

Under the scheme, Japanese trading houses will deposit a certain amount of money in the Mexican governmental Export-Import Bank, which the bank will use for payments to cover the trading firms' purchases of Mexican products, according to the officials. If, after five years, there remains in the bank any unpaid part of the original deposit, the bank will pay back the money to the companies with interest. The trade insurance will cover the risk that the bank cannot repay the remaining deposit.

The plan, called the Trade Support Finance Facility, is aimed at sparking an inflow of private-sector funds to the country, which is suffering from 95 billion dollar foreign debts, the officials said. The 300 million yen is not a fixed ceiling but may be expanded in the future if Japanese trading firms ask for more, they said.

Yoshio Ichiryu, director of MITI's International Trade Insurance Division, said, "Already three major trading companies —Mitsubishi Corp., Marubeni Corp., and Sumitomo Corp.—have expressed interest in the scheme."

In the meeting, Muto also proposed to send a Japanese economic exchange mission to Mexico this autumn. Salinas reportedly welcomed the idea.

Addresses News Conference

OW1906132590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1228 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari said here Tuesday he is expecting more Japanese enterprises to participate in his country's market, especially in the electronics and automobile industries.

He said more than 30 contracts on Japanese investments in Mexico have already been concluded during his visit to Japan since last Saturday, a figure representing more than double in value the whole amount of investments made in the past. Salinas made the remarks at a press conference at the Japan National Press Club in Tokyo after a meeting with leaders from five major business bodies, including the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

"We recognized the need for change and opted for modernization as a clear and consistent strategy for carrying it through," Salinas told reporters. The Mexican President also said that to achieve economic stability, his Government has observed strict fiscal discipline, which last year made it possible for it to reduce its two-digit deficit to around 6 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

"Japanese business leaders apparently had a good impression about our efforts and most of them showed positive interest with a call for more Japanese investment in Mexico," he added. Asked about access to Mexican markets by Japanese enterprises, Salinas said he does not intend to impose any restriction on such activities, citing electronics and automobile manufacturers as the most favorable industries.

Salinas also praised Japan for providing aid worth 1.2 billion yen to help prevent air pollution in Mexico City, describing the aid as unprecedented between nations.

Salinas arrived in Japan on Saturday for a five-day official visit through Wednesday.

Cabinet Reshuffle Postponed Until End of Year

OW1606082790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1502 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has postponed to the end of the year a third reshuffle of his Cabinet, expected among some quarters of his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to come this August, party sources said Friday.

The idea has won support from former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and other party leaders, they said. In confidential messages sent to party politicians excluded from Kaifu's second cabinet, Kaifu promised them another chance this summer, the sources said.

Expectations have grown that the next Cabinet reshuffle would come after the summit conference of seven major industrialized countries to be held in Houston, Texas, in early July, they said. Speculation at the time of the formation of the second Kaifu cabinet at the end of February suggested that it would be short-lived, and able to continue until this summer, at best. This helped promote expectations of another reshuffle, the sources said.

Despite the negative estimates, however, public support for Kaifu's government jumped after structural trade problems with the United States and other pending issues appeared to have been pushed toward solution. Surveys showed the government's popularity rising above the 60 percent mark.

Against this background, Kaifu apparently feels it unnecessary to change the Cabinet lineup in the near future, the sources said. Instead, the reshuffle will come in December, with the new Cabinet's term of office continuing until the ruling party presidential election scheduled for fall next year, the sources predicted.

Gross National Product Rises in Fiscal 1989

OW1906082990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0655 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—Japan's gross national product (GNP) expanded 5.0 percent in real terms in Fiscal 1989, which ended March 31, from the previous fiscal year, the Economic Planning Agency announced in a preliminary report Tuesday.

The agency also said the nation's GNP—total value of goods and services produced—grew at an inflation-adjusted 2.5 percent in the January-March quarter of this year from the previous quarter.

Domestic demand contributed 1.2 percent and external demand added 1.3 percent to the GNP in the final quarter of Fiscal 1989, the agency said.

Ministry, FTC Working on Antimonopoly Cases

OW1606075990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1500 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—The Justice Ministry has decided to set up a coordination body between public prosecutors and the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) to give greater effect to enforcement of the anti-monopoly law, ministry officials said Friday.

The decision is in line with a U.S. request made in the Structural Impediment Initiative (SII) talks, they said. The public prosecutors' office will be asked to pass on to the FTC any information it may have about violations of the law, since, under current legislation, the right to prosecute antimonopoly cases is granted to the FTC, the officials said.

The U.S. has urged Japan to substantially strengthen enforcement of the law, by increasing the FTC staff and budget and seeking more public prosecutions. There has not been a single public prosecution of an antimonopoly case since 1974.

JSP To Establish Group To Counter Rice Imports

OW1406152990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—The leading opposition party, the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), decided on Thursday to establish a special group within the party to devise ways of blocking the opening of the Japanese rice market.

The party made the decision at a meeting of its central executive committee, party officials said. The group will be headed by Makoto Tanabe, the JSP vice chairman. The JSP decision contrasts with that of Komeito, the No. 2 opposition party, which recently proposed an open debate on whether Japan should continue to shut out rice imports.

All political parties are opposed to liberalization of Japan's rice market. Japan is under pressure from the United States to open up its rice market, an issue that is being addressed in the current Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

White Paper on Better Global Telecommunications

OW1506043290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0241 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—The annual government white paper on telecommunications, released Friday, calls on Japan to contribute to the globalization of telecommunications, particularly with developing countries, by increasing technical and technological transfers to other nations.

The report called for Japan to help establish a low-cost Asia-Pacific telecommunications network by reducing

telephone charges from Japan by promoting brisk technology and technical transfer among countries in the region.

The paper, presented to the Cabinet by the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry, pointed to the increase in the global transfer of goods, capital, and people in the past two decades as underlining the need for a better telecom infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific and added that current communications through telephones, data links, and other means into and out of Japan are 44 times greater than they were 20 years ago.

North Korea

'Serious Political Provocation' in Security Area

SK1806152590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Panmunjom June 18 (KCNA)—A meeting of security officers of the two sides to the Military Armistice Commission was held today in Panmunjom at the proposal of our side.

According to the statement of the security officer of our side at the meeting, the enemy scattered political propaganda materials slandering our system and touching off the resentment of our personnel of our post in the portion of our side in the Joint Security Area at about 5 hours 15 minutes today.

The security officer of our side stressed that the incident was the gravest and most serious political provocation ever in the Joint Security Area and a grave case which may cause confrontation and clash between the two sides.

He, saying it is not an isolated incident, produced photo materials and condemned the enemy for continuously committing provocations and violations in the Joint Security Area.

The security officer of the enemy side, unable to find excuses before the stark fact, said it was done by the south Korean authorities.

The security officer of our side demanded that as the U.S. side admitted the incident was committed by its side, the U.S. side punish the criminals and take a proper measure for prevent the recurrence of similar action.

Formation of Nationwide Reunification Front Urged

SK1706084890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Sunday comes out with an article entitled "Formation of nationwide united front is guarantee for national reunification".

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"Fifth, a nationwide united front for the country's reunification must be formed."

The policy to form a nationwide united front for the country's reunification advanced by the great leader is a chuche-based one embodying the steadfast independent stand that the national reunification should be achieved with the united strength of the nation, and creative stand that the reunification question should be solved in keeping with the specific conditions of the country and the common interest of the nation, the author of the article says, and continues:

The country's reunification is a nationwide task which can be fulfilled only when the whole nation pools strength and closely unites. To form a nationwide united front on the principle of great national unity, therefore, is an important guarantee for the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the country.

In order to form the front for the country's reunification, it is imperative for the compatriots in the North, the South and overseas and people of all strata to firmly unite on the principle of giving priority to the common interests of the nation, transcending differences in class, ideology, political view and religious faith.

The struggle for the national reunification is not confrontation between the two parts of the country nor confrontation of ideas and systems but confrontation and struggle between the lines of reunification and division, peace and war, and patriotism and treachery. Accordingly, any class and segment should not place their interests over the national interests.

Differences in idea, political view and religious belief can never be a condition hindering unity on a united front for the country's reunification.

All the organisations in the North, the South and overseas desirous of national reunification should think first of the interest and destiny of the country and the nation before arguing for the narrow interests of a class and stratum, and should closely cooperate and unite with each other under the banner of reunification. Only then a nationwide united front can be formed.

When all the political parties and organisations and figures of various circles in the North, the South and overseas cooperate and unite with each other through the formation of the nationwide united front for the country's reunification, there is no doubt that the road will be opened to resolve independently the reunification question by the united strength of our nation in keeping with the will and interests of the nation.

The formation of the nationwide united front for the country's reunification is unthinkable apart from the struggle against the maneouvers of the splittists within and without, the article says, adding:

The South Korean puppets continue committing criminal acts of creating antagonism and discord within the nation and obstructing national reconciliation and unity

by raising a row of anti-communist confrontation more maliciously going against the desire of the nation for reunification at the instigation of the U.S. Imperialists.

The South Korean students and people of all walks of life must never tolerate the puppets' moves of anti-communist confrontation and permanent division which are getting more undisguised but decisively check and frustrate them with united strength.

All the Korean people in the North, the South and overseas must remove the tragedy of national division at an early date and achieve the historical cause of national reunification without fail by forming a nationwide united front for the country's reunification and fighting dynamically, closely united around it.

'Positive' Response of South Assemblymen Welcomed

SK1806122690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 18 (KCNA)—A spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland answered questions put by a KCNA reporter regarding the positive response shown recently by some "national assemblymen" of South Korea from the "Democratic Liberal Party" (DLP) to the DPRK's disarmament proposal.

He said:

The disarmament proposal advanced anew at a joint meeting of the Central People's Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Administration Council of the DPRK which was held in Pyongyang on May 31 contains ten essential points in easing the tension and guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula at present, such as building confidence between the North and the South, reducing the armed forces of the North and the South respectively to less than 100,000 men in three phases, withdrawing the foreign forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and thus turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and taking steps for disarmament and guaranteeing peace after that.

This disarmament proposal is an active initiative and a most realistic and reasonable peace proposal to ease the tension which is growing acute on the Korean peninsula and create a peaceful climate for national reunification, proceeding from the reality of our country over which the danger of the outbreak of another war is hanging heavily.

On June 8, some "DLP national assemblymen" of South Korea strongly demanded a dramatic switchover in the authorities' policy toward the North," saying the authorities must "examine a proposal for affirmatively responding to the non- aggression declaration" called for by the North and "promote work for an early opening of disarmament talks."

This move of theirs is a manifestation of apprehensions over the daily worsening North-South confrontation and danger of war and their sympathy with our just proposal, and it deserves welcome that such voices rang out from a corner of the "DLP."

However, the South Korean authorities still fail to show a positive response to our new disarmament proposal for all their talk on several occasions that they would make "a disarmament proposal" and that they are ready to discuss with the North matters of disarmament and non-aggression declaration, the spokesman said, and went on:

Today when detente and disarmament have become an international trend there is no reason why they should not accept our disarmament proposal which reflects the realities on the Korean peninsula and the demands of the times most correctly.

Whether the disarmament proposal for peace on the Korean peninsula is carried into effect or not entirely depends on how the United States and the South Korean authorities approach it.

If the South Korean authorities truly want "disarmament" and "peace," they must cease from disregarding the demands of people of broad strata and politicians and unhesitatingly take the road to a sharp, phased arms cut in response to our proposal.

The United States must come out to the table for substantial negotiation with us to guarantee peace in Korea, not deceiving the public opinion with a plausible talk about "disarmament" and "reduction of the U.S. forces present in South Korea."

Reelection of Kim Il-song Evokes Joy in South

SK1806105390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 18 (KCNA)—The reelection of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is evoking great joy and feelings of boundless reverence among the people of all walks of life in South Korea.

A docker surnamed pak in Inchon told his family members:

General Kim Il-song is a great man who descended from heaven. Our family has lived unbendingly, regarding him its mainstay, since the period of the Japanese colonial rule.

Can there be any happier and more glorious event than his reelection as president?

A professor Kim of Tonga University in Pusan informed students of the reelection of General Kim Il-song as president, adding:

General Kim Il-song is the sun of the nation revered by the entire fellow countrymen and a lodestar of national reunification.

He founded the great chuche idea in his early years, indicated the path ahead of the nation and built a paradise of the people in the North.

A student Kim of Sogang University told his fellow students it is a glorious and historical tradition of our nation to hold in high esteem and follow General Kim Il-song, and expressed his determination to achieve national reunification without fail in the era of the general.

Hwang Chang-yop Meets With U.S. Scholars

SK1906121090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1115 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today met and conversed at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the delegation of U.S. scholars headed by Prof. and Dr. Erwin Marquit of University of Minnesota, the United States.

Vice-president of the Academy of Chuche Science Han Su-kil was present on the occasion.

International Conference for Disarmament Held

Delegates Arrive for Meeting

SK1806154090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 18 (KCNA)—Delegations and delegates of different countries to the International Conference for Disarmament, Cooperation and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region arrived here today.

Among them are a delegation of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization [AAPSO] led by its president Mourad Ghaleb [as received]; delegate of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity organization of Bangladesh M. Ahmed, vice-president of the Organization; delegate of the Malagasy Solidarity Committee Randriamaro Joel, national secretary of the Committee; delegate of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committee of Nepal Babukaji Basukala, presidium member of the Committee; delegate of the Philippine Peace and Solidarity Council Honesto L. Cueva, chairman of the council; delegate of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Association of Sri Lanka D.E.W. Gunasekara, secretary general of the association; a delegation of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of the Soviet Union headed by Vladimir Tolstikov, first vice-president of the Committee; delegate of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of Vietnam Nguyen Trung Lieu, vice-president of the Committee; delegate of the Yemen Peace and Solidarity Council Ahmad Joubran, first deputy general secretary of the council; delegate of the Asian Information Centre of the AAPSO Tran Minh Quoc; delegate of the World Federation of Democratic Youth [WFDY] Ravdangiin Samdandovj, member of the bureau of the WFDY; and delegate of the Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition Paul Petersen, member of the National Co-ordinating Committee of the coalition.

The guests were met by Kim Kuk-hun, chairman of the Korean Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, and officials concerned.

Earlier, on June 17, delegate of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of Mongolia Usukhbayaryn Togoo [as received] and delegate of the New People's Patriotic Alliance of the Philippines Baltazar A. Pinguel arrived here.

Conference Opens in Pyongyang

SK1906050490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—The International Conference for Disarmament, Cooperation and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region opened here today.

The conference, sponsored by the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, will discuss the present situation in the Asia-Pacific region, the withdrawal of foreign troops and military bases from this region, the creation of a nuclear-free, peace zone, economic development and cooperation in culture, science and technology among the countries in this region.

Kim Yong-sun Gives Address

SK1906051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, secretary for international affairs of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a congratulatory speech at the international conference for disarmament, cooperation and development in the Asia-Pacific region which has opened here today.

Saying the universal situation tends toward detente, but the situation in the Asia-Pacific region still remains tense, Kim Yong-sun noted that the Korean peninsula is one of the most strained zones in this region.

He further said:
The division of the Korean peninsula has caused and aggravated confrontation, tension and the danger of war for nearly half a century and this is inevitable as long as the division continues.

The Korean people will never allow any form of "two Koreas" plot.

If Korea is to be reunified peacefully, there is no other way but to introduce confederation that leaves the two systems as they are on the principle of co-existence, neither side conquering the other or being conquered, under the circumstances in which different ideologies and systems exist in the north and the South.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward long ago the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and recently laid down a new five-point policy to carry it into effect.

The reunification question of Korea is our nation's domestic issue and, accordingly, it should be decided by our nation itself and no outside force has right to interfere in it.

The South Korean authorities' "two Koreas" plot such as the "northern policy" and "membership of the United Nations" is a flunkeyist and traitorous act to keep Korea divided indefinitely with the help of big countries and betray a half of the country and the nation to the outside forces.

Our people will increase in every way the might of our socialist system they chose and built with their own efforts and staunchly fight to accomplish the cause of national reunification as early as possible with the concerted efforts of the whole nation and through dialogue and negotiation, closely rallied around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and under the leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Our people will, in the future, too, make every possible effort to turn the Asia-Pacific region into a zone of peace, cooperation and trust and a nuclear-free, peace zone without aggression and war, domination and subjugation.

Kim Kuk-hun Speaks

SK1906054090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—Addressing the plenary meeting of the International Conference for Disarmament, Cooperation and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region which opened here today, Kim Kuk-hun, chairman of the Korean Committee for Asian-African Solidarity, said that in order to activize the endeavours of the Asia-Pacific countries for the development in a peaceful atmosphere and to propel cooperation for the same purpose, the ambition of the U.S. imperialists to dominate this region must be eradicated and the climate be appeased.

To this end, the U.S. policy for converting this region into a military base must be banned, its armament reinforcement schemes be frustrated, disarmament including nuclear disarmament be enforced and this region be turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone, Kim Kuk-hun said, and continued:

We resolutely claim that all the foreign military bases in the Asia-Pacific region must be dismantled and all the foreign troops and nuclear weapons must be withdrawn from there at the earliest possible date.

In effecting disarmament and ensuring peace and development in the Asia-Pacific region, an important thing, first of all, is to relax tension and secure permanent peace on the Korean peninsula.

For the relaxation of tension and for durable peace on the Korean peninsula, the North and South must adopt a nonaggression declaration guaranteeing that the both sides refrain from invading the other, the DPRK and the United States must sign a peace agreement, the armed forces in the North and the South must be reduced drastically and nuclear weapons and foreign troops must be withdrawn from South Korea.

The Korean people will exert all their possible efforts to independently and peacefully reunify their country divided by the foreign forces and will make great contribution to ensuring peace and security of the Asia-Pacific region by achieving peace and reunification of their land.

For common prosperity and progress of the Asia-Pacific people, cooperation among the countries in this region should be further intensified in the field of development.

The Korean people guided by the ideal of independence, peace and friendship will further to develop cooperation with the countries in this region and will exert all their efforts for common prosperity and development of the Asia- Pacific region.

Kim Yong-sun Speaks

SK1906111190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, secretary for international affairs of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a congratulatory speech at the International Conference for Disarmament, Cooperation and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region which has opened here today.

Saying the universal situation tends toward detente, but the situation in the Asia-Pacific region still remains tense, Kim Yong-sun noted that the double-faced stand in opening the door of "detente" in one part of the globe and inciting confrontation in other part reveals the crafty and dangerous policy of aggression and war pursued by the U.S. administration.

The people in the Asia-Pacific region should heighten vigilance against the nuclear war moves of the imperialists behind the curtain of "detente" and "dialogue" and more persistently wage a joint struggle for the withdrawal of foreign aggression forces and military bases and elimination of nuclear weapons, he said, and continued:

The Korean peninsula is one of the most strained zones in this region.

The elimination of nuclear weapons, arms reduction and drastic disarmament are the only way to remove the root cause of a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula and preserve peace.

The division of the Korean peninsula has caused and aggravated confrontation, tension and the danger of war for nearly half a century and this is inevitable as long as the division continues.

The Korean people will never allow any form of "two Koreas" plot.

If Korea is to be reunified peacefully, there is no other way but to introduce confederation that leaves the two systems as they are on the principle of co-existence, neither side conquering the other or being conquered, under the circumstances in which different ideologies and systems exist in the North and the South.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward long ago a fair proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo which gives a most practical way to reunify the country through confederation, and recently laid down a new five-point policy for national reunification to carry it into effect.

For an early achievement of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, it is imperative to realise the five-point policy for national reunification—to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula and create a peaceful climate for the country's reunification, effect free travel and full-scale open door between the North and the South, create an international climate favourable to national reunification such as the joint entry of the North and the South into the United Nations as one member, develop dialogue for the reunification of the country and form a nationwide united front for the reunification.

The reunification question of Korea is our nation's domestic issue and, accordingly, it should be decided by our nation itself and no outside force has right to interfere in it.

The South Korean authorities' "two Koreas" plot such as the "northern policy" and "membership of the United Nations" is a flunkeyist and traitorous act to keep Korea divided indefinitely with the help of big countries and betray a half of the country and the nation to the outside forces.

We maintain that Korea must join the UN as a unified country. If the North and the South are to enter the UN before Korea's reunification is achieved, they must not hold two separate seats but enter it jointly as one member.

The United States, as a party which is directly responsible for the Korean question, must look straight at the current of the situation and refrain from seeking a permanent division of Korea, and other countries concerned, too, should maintain the principled stand which is helpful to the reunification of Korea.

If the Asia-Pacific countries harmonize their development strategy and develop cooperation on the principle of equality and mutual benefits, they will be able to turn great possibilities into reality for coprosperity, said Kim Yong-sun, adding:

We will develop economic, cultural and technical exchange and cooperation with other Asia-Pacific countries and positively contribute to achieving common progress and prosperity of the peoples in this region on the principle of South-South cooperation and collective self-reliance.

Our people will, in the future, too, make every possible effort to turn the Asia-Pacific region into a zone of peace, cooperation and trust and a nuclear-free, peace zone without aggression and war, domination and subjugation, in close unity with the peaceloving people in Asia and the rest of the world in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship.

Sihanouk Arrives in Pyongyang 19 Jun

SK1906125090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia, arrived here today by special plane for a visit to Korea.

Put up at the airport were portraits of President Kim Il-song and His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

When the plane carrying Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and his entourage touched down at the airport, a large crowd of citizens warmly welcomed them, waving floral bunches.

They were met by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin and officials concerned.

Present at the airport were Cambodian Ambassador to Korea Son Chhum and his embassy officials and diplomatic envoys of different countries here.

A welcome ceremony was held at the airport.

His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, together with Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

The Samdech waved in acknowledgement of the warm welcome of the crowd.

Danish Workers' Party Visits Pyongyang

Delegation Arrives 14 Jun

SK1406221990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 14 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Danish Workers' Party, Common Course led by its chairman Preben Moller Hansen arrived here today to

visit Korea upon the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It was met at the airport by secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kim Tong-sun and others.

Kim Yong-su Speaks at Reception

/SK1506051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea hosted a reception Thursday in honour of the delegation of the Danish workers' party, Common Course.

Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, made a speech at the reception.

He said that although Korea and Denmark are far away geographically, the two parties set all lines and policies centring on man, forged bonds of class brothers on the same front of the joint struggle for their realisation and have close relations, supporting and cooperating with each other.

We are proud of having such revolutionary and reliable friends as you in nordic land which is far away from here and are always deeply interested in the just activities of your party, he said.

Pointing to the internal and external policies pursued by the Danish workers' party, Common Course, under the leadership of respected Comrade Preben Moller Hansen, he highly appreciated the independent policy of the party and its activities for their realisation and expressed firm solidarity with them.

He expressed the belief that the delegation's visit to Korea will mark an epochal occasion in deepening understanding and trust between the two workers' parties and developing the relations of friendship and solidarity onto a higher stage.

Head of the delegation Preben Moller Hansen, chairman of the Danish workers' party, Common Course, spoke next.

Noting that he knew long ago that Yankees had severely destroyed Korea between 1950 and 1953, he said that he would tell the people he would meet about the revolutionary spirit displayed by the Korean people during the post-war rehabilitation and construction.

Pointing out that the great President Kim Il-song had waged the 20 odd year arduous struggle for the freedom and liberation of the country and the people. He stressed that the long period was days of the difficult and arduous struggle.

The world revolutionary people are praising the exploits performed by the great President Kim Il-song through his devoted struggle.

Saying that he considers the five-point policy of national reunification put forward by President Kim Il-song in his recent policy speech to be the wisest policy of national reunification, he emphasized that he would actively strive for the materialization of the policy.

He said that he would make positive efforts to strengthen and develop the friendly relations between the Workers' Party of Korea and the Danish workers' party, Common Course.

WPK, Delegates Hold Talks 15 Jun

SK1506113290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—Talks were held here today between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Danish workers' party, Common Course.

Present at the talks on our side were Secretary Kim Yong-sun and Vice-Director of a department Kim Hyong-u of the WPK Central Committee and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side the members of the delegation led by Preben Moller Hansen, chairman of the Danish workers' party, Common Course.

At the talks both sides informed each other of the activities of their parties and exchanged views on developing the friendly relations between the two parties and on a series of matters of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Receives Delegation

SK1606105490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Danish workers' party, Common Course led by Chairman Preben Moller Hansen.

Present on the occasion were Kim Yong-sun, secretary, and Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The guests presented a gift to President Kim Il-song.

He arranged a luncheon for the guests.

Gift Given to Kim Chong-il

SK1606111690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was presented with a gift by the Danish workers' party, Common Course.

Preben Moller Hansen, chairman of the party, on a visit to our country, handed it to Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Vietnam Supports North's Plan for Reunification

SK1606043490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text) Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in a solidarity message to Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam said the party, government and people of Vietnam have deep sympathy with the fraternal Korean people's aspiration to national reunification and always support the just stand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

Rejoicing at the new changes which are taking place in the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, he expressed the belief that these relations would grow stronger and develop.

Socialist Youth League Delegates Head to Japan

SK1606111890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] led by vice-chairman of its Central Committee [C.C.] Choe Hyon-tok left here today by plane Japan.

It was seen off at the airport by Kim Song-chol, vice-chairman of the C.C., the LSWYK.

Symposium of Overseas Koreans Held in Tokyo

SK1606050490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—The 12th Symposium of Overseas Korean Scholars for National Reunification was held in Tokyo over June 9-10.

Present there were many overseas Korean scholars and personages residing in the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan and other countries.

Choe Kyong-tae, director of the Institute of National Reunification of Overseas Korean Scholars, the sponsor organisation, made an opening address at the symposium.

He called for making the 1990s a brilliant decade of reunification without fail by the concerted efforts of the compatriots in the North and South of the country and abroad with a firm conviction of the justice of the cause of reunification.

The call for forming at an early date a preparatory committee for national reunification advanced at a joint meeting of political parties and social organisations in the Northern half of Korea some time ago is a very timely and just appeal, he noted.

Congratulatory speeches were made by former president of Senshu University Ryo Maeno, representative member of the Japan office of the International Union for the Rights and Liberation of Nations, and Kwak Tong-ui, chairman of the "Federation for Democracy and Reunification of South Koreans in Japan".

Choe Ki-hang, a representative of the Minjung Publishing House in Switzerland, made a keynote report on the subject "Let us further accelerate national reunification by achieving national reconciliation and unity".

The report was followed by study reports and speeches.

A message of request to the UN secretary general and a "Tokyo declaration for promoting national reconciliation, unity and reunification" were adopted at the symposium.

News Conference Held at Czechoslovak Embassy

SK1506123290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—A press conference was held at the Embassy of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic in Pyongyang today.

Present were newspaper, news agency and radio reporters in Pyongyang.

Ambassador Zbynek Schee spoke about the course and results of the elections to the supreme legislative body in his country.

The ambassador answered questions put by reporters.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Icelandic Leader

SK1606104890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Vigdis Finnbogadottir, president of the Republic of Iceland, on the occasion of the national day of Iceland.

The message wished the Icelandic president big success in her work for the prosperity of the country.

Waldheim Supports Reunified Korean UN Entry

SK1706101390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0804 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—Kurt Waldheim, federal president of the Republic of Austria, said Korea should not join the United Nations in a state of division but enter it under a single nomenclature of reunified Korea at least after a confederation is realised.

When the president met DPRK Ambassador to his country Pak Si-ung on June 13, he extended warmest congratulations to respected His Excellency President

Kim Il-song upon his reelection as president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He stressed that the five-point policy of national reunification laid down by President Kim Il-song in his policy speech and the disarmament proposal advanced at a joint meeting of the Central People's Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Administration Council of the DPRK are very important steps for the reunification and peace of Korea.

He wholeheartedly wished President Kim Il-song and His Excellency Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Congolese President Congratulates Kim Il-song

SK1206130190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Congratulatory message sent by General Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of Congo, to Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the DPRK, on his reelection—read by announcer]

[Text] Pyongyang

Your Excellency Comrade Kim Il-song, President of the DPRK

To my great joy, I heard the news that you were respectfully reelected state head of your country.

I take this happy opportunity to sincerely express my congratulations to you.

I am firmly convinced that your country's reunification cause for the well-being of the Korean people will be realized under your wise leadership.

I wholeheartedly wish you happiness and, at the same time, wish success in your important work for the happiness of your country's people.

I hope that the multifaceted, friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries will be further strengthened and developed for our people's interests.

I express the noblest militant respect to you.

[Signed] General Denis Sassou-Nguesso, President of the People's Republic of Congo
[Dated] 8 June 1990, Brazzaville

Further on Revolutionary Party of Tanzania Visit

WPK Committee Hosts Reception

SK1306064490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] hosted a reception Tuesday in honor of the delegation of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (RPT.)

Secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kim Yong-sun made a speech at the reception.

Referring to the friendly relations between the two parties, he stressed that especially, the meetings between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and chairman of the RPT respected Comrade Julius K. Nyerere and respected comrade President Ali Hassan Mwinyi marked important occasions in expanding and developing the bonds of friendship and cooperation in all areas between the two parties and the two peoples.

He said:
The Tanzanian party and people are now dynamically advancing towards socialism along the road of the "Arusha Declaration." We highly praise the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania for further strengthening its leadership and staunchly defending and implementing the principles of socialism and self-reliance to cope with the present situation and express full support to and solidarity with it.

Head of the delegation Alfred C. Tandau, member of the Central Committee and secretary of the National Executive Committee of the RPT, spoke next.

The stand the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il have maintained, the resolute stand that they must follow the road to socialism to the end, greatly inspires the Tanzanian party and people, he said and went on:

The Tanzanian party and government want to be greatly benefited from the successes made by the Korean people in the modern industry and agriculture in particular under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

He warmly congratulated the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song on his reelection as president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on behalf of the chairman of the RPT, the president and people of Tanzania.

His reelection as president gives a great inspiration to the people who are embarking on the road of building a new life, said the head of the delegation.

He expressed the conviction that the Korean people would as ever firmly defend the gains of socialism closely rallied around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, bravely smashing all moves of the enemy.

No matter how desperately the enemy may try to slander socialism, we will convincingly advance along the road of socialism.

The delegation arrived here on June 12.

Kim Il-song Receives Delegation

SK1706085290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song today received the delegation of

the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (RPT) headed by Alfred C. Tandau, member of the Central Committee and Secretary of the National Executive Committee of the RPT, on a visit to Korea.

Present on ths occasion were secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Yong-sun and Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam.

The head of the delegation conveyed to Comrade Kim Il-song a personal letter and gift of chairman of the RPT Comrade Julius K. Nyerere.

Comrade Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Support Voiced for Struggle in South Africa

SK1506115090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—The Korean people will as ever fully support and encourage the South African people in their just struggle.

Kim Yong-yong, chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Korean Committee, said this in a statement issued today on the occasion of the "day of international solidarity with the fighting South African people."

He further said:

The South African racists are trying hard to take the edge off the struggle of the South African people for the termination of the racist system and relieve themselves from international pressure. With no amount of attempt, however, can they break the fighting spirit of the South African people for national rights, freedom and liberation.

The African National Congress of South Africa and the South African people are now waging a valiant struggle which is not for a partial reform of the racist system but for its ultimate liquidation.

The South African people's struggle for the liquidation of racism and for freedom and liberation is part of the righteous struggle of the world's peaceloving people. It enjoys full support and encouragement from the world's progressive people who love justice and peace.

Holding that all the countries should intensify economic sanctions against South Africa, the Anti-Apartheid Korean Committee expresses the firm belief that the African National Congress of South Africa and the South African people will terminate the apartheid system and win the final victory.

Daily on Solidarity With South African People

SK1606051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates an article to "Day of international solidarity with fighting South African people."

On this occasion, the Korean people extend full support to and solidarity with the African National Congress of South Africa and the South African people in their anti-racist struggle, the author of the article says, and continues:

The fierce anti-racist struggle in South Africa is an inevitable offspring of the crimes committed by the racists.

It is becoming more organized and active with each passing day. The emergence of a new regime of de Klerk in South Africa reflects the serious political and economic crisis of the racists.

The persistent struggle of the African National Congress of South Africa and the South African people and the pressure of the progressive people in Africa and the rest of the world forced the Klerk regime to take a series of steps for legalizing anti-racist organizations which had been outlawed, releasing some political prisoners and holding official talks with the African National Congress of South Africa and a few days ago lift the state of emergency, though on a limited scale. This, however, does not mean the termination of apartheid.

The African National Congress of South Africa is determined to continue its armed struggle till the apartheid is abolished.

The South African people will put an end to the heinous apartheid and achieve freedom and liberation without fail with the support and sympathy of the world progressive people.

WPK 'Warmly' Hails ANC's Achievements

SK1606112290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] today sent a solidarity letter to the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) on the occasion of "day of international solidarity with the fighting South African people."

The letter says:
Your organization and the South African people have courageously waged a just struggle against racism, enjoying strong support and encouragement from the world's peaceloving people, dealt a heavy blow at the South African authorities and created favorable conditions for establishing a free and democratic system without racism.

This year the lawful activities of your organization and other anti-racist organizations have been ensured and Comrade Nelson Mandela was released. This is a brilliant result of the long-drawn-out bloody struggle of your organization and the South African people and a common victory of the peaceloving people in Africa and the rest of the world.

We warmly hail the achievements of your organization and the South African people and strongly demand that the South African authorities immediately lift the state of emergency throughout the country and totally abolish all the racist laws as demanded by your organization and the South African people.

Assuring you that we will actively support your cause till the ANC and the people of South Africa have achieved the final victory, we take this opportunity to wish you greater success in your future struggle.

South African Struggle Lauded at Meeting

SK1606112990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—A meeting was held today in Pyongyang on day of solidarity with the fighting South African people.

Present there were Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with World People, Won Tong-ku, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, and others.

Speaking at the meeting Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and chairman of the Korean National Peace Committee, extended firm solidarity to the African National Congress of South Africa and the South African people in their just struggle against racism.

The Korean people resolutely denounce the apartheid policy pursued by the South African racists at the instigation of the imperialists and will invariably support their just struggle for freedom and democracy, he declared.

The meeting adopted a letter to Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress of South Africa.

WPK Sends Letter to MPLA-Workers' Party

SK1206212190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1546 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] today sent a solidarity letter to the Central Committee of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Workers' Party in support of the statement dated may 31 issued by its Political Bureau.

Pointing out that the United States continues to intensify military and financial assistance to the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] reactionaries despite the opposition of the entire Angolan people and the world's peaceloving people, the letter says:

This shows that the United States is a disturber of peace which is stepping up aggression on the independently advancing countries behind the facade of "peace" and "detente" and making undisguised efforts to subjugate other countries under the signboard of "assistance" and "cooperation."

The UNITA bandits, instigated by the United States, are escalating the acts of destruction and murder, refusing to implement the peace agreement they signed with the Angolan Government, which is touching off the resentment of the world's peaceloving people.

Our party and people bitterly denounce the U.S. assistance to the UNITA reactionaries as a flagrant infringement on and interference in the sovereignty and internal affairs of Angola and a challenge openly menacing peace and security in Africa and the rest of the world.

The letter expresses militant solidarity with the MPLA-Workers' Party and the Angolan people in the just struggle to promote the cause of socialism and achieve peace and stability in the country.

Yi Chong-ok Meets Burundi Ambassador

SK1406222190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 14 (KCNA)—Vice-President Yi Chong-ok today met and conversed at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with Gervais Ndikumagenge, Burundi Ambassador to Korea, who paid a courtesy call on him.

On hand was Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-yong.

Dailies Hail Anniversary of Malagasy Revolution

SK1506114490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate signed articles to the 15th anniversary of the start of the Malagasy revolution.

The start of revolution in Madagascar in 1975 was the manifestation of the firm will of the Malagasy people not to spoil the price of the blood shed for freedom and independence and to build a rich and powerful new society, NODONG SINMUN says, and points out:

The start of the 1975 revolution opened a wider road of creating a new life to the Malagasy people. The Supreme Council of revolution was formed and the socialist revolutionary charter, the political programme of the government, was promulgated in August. In December, a

new Constitution was adopted and the Democratic Republic of Madagascar was proclaimed.

The past 15 years were the fruitful years of creating a new life. The Malagasy people have advanced according to the socialist line prescribed in the socialist revolutionary charter.

The Malagasy people are continuing their fruitful efforts to build a new Madagascar along the road indicated by the charter. The Korean people sincerely wish the Malagasy people greater success in their future struggle.

A MINJU CHOSON article expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations established between the two countries through the struggle for a common aim will further consolidate and develop in future, too.

Kim Yong-nam Receives Letter From Zimbabwe

SK1506050090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—A letter of solidarity came to Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam from Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira supporting the DPRK's new proposal for national reunification.

The letter said that the stand of the Republic of Zimbabwe on the reunification question of Korea is invariable.

The government of the Republic of Zimbabwe supports the stand that the national reunification should be achieved without foreign interference in a peaceful way through dialogue and negotiation between the North and the South according to the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity laid down in the July 4 North-South joint statement, it noted, and went on:

And we fully support the view that the UN membership of Korea is an internal question of Korea to be discussed and decided jointly by the North and the South, and welcome your side's proposal for holding North-South high-level talks to discuss the reunification question in this connection.

Our stand on the question of Korea entering the United Nations is that Korea is one and, accordingly, one reunified Korea should enter the UN legitimately.

New Sri Lankan Ambassador Presents Credentials

SK1806130190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 18 (KCNA)—S. Gautamadasa, newly-appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to Korea, today presented his credentials to Yi Chong-ok, vice-president of the DPRK.

Present at the presentation ceremony was Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cha Pong-chu.

After receiving the credentials Vice-President Yi Chong-ok conversed with the ambassador.

Daily Praises Cause of Global Independence

SK1506104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an article titled "Global Independence Is Common Cause of the World's People."

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said:
"Struggle for making independence prevail throughout the world is the common cause of the world's people and the subject of this struggle is the world's people who advocate chajusong."

Noting that making the whole world independent is the common cause of the world's people, the article says that it is because the cause of global independence reflects the common desire and aspiration of the world's people.

The author of the article continues:
The cause of making independence prevail throughout the world embodies, above all, the common desire and aspiration of the world's people to oppose all manner of domination and subjugation and realize chajusong of the country and the nation.

Chajusong of the country and the nation is a prerequisite to the chajusong of the popular masses and the struggle for it is precisely a struggle to materialize the people's chajusong.

An independent world is built through the proneness of expanding the independence of the country and the nation on a worldwide scale. Accordingly, the struggle to build an independent new world is the common demand of the world's people for the independence of the country and the nation to realize their chajusong.

The cause of making independence prevail throughout the world also embodies the common desire and aspiration of the popular masses to live in a peaceful world, free from aggression and war.

In the world where independence prevails, dominationism will have been completely liquidated and all countries will have achieved national sovereignty and thus there can be no aggression and war and a durable peace will be maintained.

Therefore, to create such a world is the unanimous demand of the world's people to live peacefully, not knowing war. The cause of making independence prevail throughout the world also embodies the desire and aspiration of the world's people to make progress and prosperity in all countries, free from exploitation and plunder.

An independent world is a new world where dominationism and colonialism have been completely liquidated, the sovereignty of countries and nations is guaranteed, there is no plunder and exploitation of any country and nation and all countries and all nations jointly achieve progress and prosperity, helping and cooperating with each other.

The subject in the struggle for making independence prevail throughout the world is the world's people who advocate chajusong and the success of this struggle entirely depends on how they strive to accomplish the objective.

In order to build an independent new world, all countries and all nations should defend and adhere to chajusong and fight against dominationism and colonialism. And the world's people should closely unite.

Our people will vigorously fight to build a prosperous new world, independent and peaceful, against imperialists' domination and subjugation, aggression and war, plunder and exploitation, under the uplifted banner of independence, peace and friendship.

Kim Chong-il Gives 'On-the-Spot Guidance'

SK1906045290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 19 Jun 90

["Comrade Kim Chong-il Gives On-the-Spot Guidance to Different Fields in Yanggang and Chagang Provinces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il gave on-the-spot guidance to different fields in Yanggang and Chagang provinces.

Comrade Kim Chong-il visited revolutionary battle sites, the Nampotae greenhouse farm, northern railways and other units in Mt. Paektu area to acquaint himself with the work in different fields in Yanggang and Chagang provinces and gave important tasks facing the provinces.

He was accompanied by leading functionaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief secretaries of the Yanggang and Chagang provincial party committees.

He put forth a task to build up Mt. Paektu area better.

He said that building up Mt. Paektu area well is of weighty significance in arming the party members and working people firmly with the glorious revolutionary traditions of our party and Yanggang Province should pay primary attention to this work.

He pointed out that as the number of visitors to the great open-air revolution museum is further increasing battle sites and historic sites in Hyesan City, Pochonbo, Samjiyon, Taehongdan and Yimyongsu should be built up better and every convenience be provided for them.

Saying that more camping houses, rest homes and cultural and recreation facilities should be built for visitors to revolutionary battle sites in Mt. Paektu area he noted that designing and building work should be done well to match geographical features and meet modern aesthetic needs, so that all buildings and facilities may be completed at the highest level.

Pointing out that what is important in the construction of Mt. Paektu area is to settle the question of heating, he stressed that minor power stations should be built everywhere so as to supply electricity for the heating of public buildings and dwelling houses.

Noting that Yanggang Province should push ahead, at the same time, with preparations for the Third Asia Winter Games slated to be held in our country in 1995, he indicated ways for it.

He went to see the Hyesan-Manpo youth railways and advanced tasks for its management and operation.

Saying that the newly built northern railways are associated with the heroic exploits of our young people, he highly appreciated the speed campaign youth shock brigade members and other young builders for having done great things.

He pointed out that with the construction of the northern railways, a monumental edifice in the era of the workers' party, a nation-wide railway loop-line has been formed to ease the strain on the transport and step up the socialist economic construction and realise, at the same time, the long-cherished desire of the people in both provinces.

He pointed to the management and operation of the railways and the readjustment of its surroundings.

Saying that pine-nut, fir and other trees of high economic value should be planted in harmony on both sides of the railways and in all mountains, he emphasized that a mass tree-planting movement must be dynamically conducted in Yanggang and Chagang provinces.

He set forth tasks to further improve the people's living standard in the two provinces.

He expressed great satisfaction with and highly appreciated the sufficient supply of fresh vegetables from the Nampotae greenhouse farm to the population in Samjiyon County and visitors to Mt. Paektu area all the year round.

He said that after the construction of a large greenhouse farm the people in the high-land, once known as the area unfit for human habitation, have come to lead a more abundant life, supplied with cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons and other vegetables like these in the plain areas.

He pointed out that all cities and counties across the country must build green houses drawing on the experiences of Samjiyon County which has built the modern

green house by itself in the high revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and supply the people with fresh vegetables all the year round.

He said that in Yanggang and Chagang provinces more modern houses with cultural amenities should be built and supply service be organized well for their population so that they may not feel any inconvenience in their lives.

More cocoons should be produced in Chagang Province, he said, adding: To this end more mulberry fields should be created and modern and efficient farm machines and agricultural chemicals be sufficiently provided to effect the mechanization and the application of chemistry in all work in mulberry fields including manuring.

His on-the-spot guidance to Yanggang and Chagang provinces serves as an inspiring banner which develops overall work in both provinces onto a new higher stage and powerfully arouses the entire party members and other working people in the struggle for a great upsurge in the socialist construction.

Progress in Housing Construction Noted

SK1106102390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 11 (KCNA)—Houses for 1,000 more families than in April were assembled in May at the housing construction sites for 50,000 households in Pyongyang.

The North Hwanghae Provincial youth construction brigade, the South Pyongan Provincial youth construction brigade and many other units which are in charge of the construction of Tongil Street in the Naknang plain fulfilled their plans for housing assembling in May at 110 percent.

The Pyongyang municipal youth construction division is assembling one floor in two or three days by actively introducing a new building method into the construction of high and superhigh apartment houses.

The April 14 youth construction regiment and the Kangwon provincial youth construction brigade which are mobilized in the second-stage construction of Kwangbok Street are assembling one floor in two days at the maximum.

Many new building methods and machines are being developed and introduced at the construction sites of Tongil Street and the second-stage Kwangbok Street.

Further on Housing Construction

SK1306051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—Korea has directed huge fund this year, or 9 percent up on the last year's, to housing construction.

Dwelling houses for 50,000 families, modern educational, cultural and health institutions and service establishments will be built up in the capital city of Pyongyang in two years.

The construction of modern apartment houses and public buildings is progressing in full scale, changing the looks of the capital city.

Dwelling houses for more than 25,000 families will be built up this year in South Pyongan Province.

The construction of houses for some 3,000 families out of those for more than 16,000 families which have already been undertaken has reached the final stage.

North Hamgyong, North Pyongan, Kangwon and other provinces have worked out plans of building dwelling houses for more than 10,000 or 15,000 families each this year and are now hastening with their construction.

Modern houses for more than 15,000 families of workers at the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex are rising in Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province.

In the near future, the Korean working people will be able to live in more modern dwelling houses, bringing their life under socialism into full bloom.

Funds, Effort Directed Toward Railway Transport

SK1206101190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—Korea annually disburses much fund to railway transport.

Big efforts are directed this year to the laying of new railways, railway electrification and the work of increasing the railway capacity of carrying heavy loads.

The construction of more than 80 kilometre long new Namdong-Onchon railway will be completed and a loop-line of railways will be brought into shape in the western district this year to ease the strain on railways in this area. And vigorous efforts are being made to finish the project for replacing the narrow Haeju-Ongjin line with broad ones.

New railways for the convenience of tourists to Mt. Kumgang is under construction in full scale in the some 100 kilometre section from Anbyon to Onjong-ri, Kangwon Province.

Railway electrification in Hyesan-Manpo, Wiyon-Motga and other sections is in full swing.

The switch-over to electrific traction on the 34 kilometre Taegon-Pongchang line is near completion.

A vigorous drive is going on to rapidly increase the railway capacity for carrying heavy loads by replacing the railways in some 200 kilometres of sections linking the East and the West of the country with heavy rails and

boosting the production of 8-axle electric locomotives and 100-ton heavy-duty wagons.

The construction of repair bases capable of dealing with thousands of coaches and wagons is making fast progress.

South Korea

Former North Korean Dissidents Arrive in Seoul

SK1806134790 Seoul YONHAP in English 1158 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 18 (OANA-YONHAP)—Eighteen former North Korean dissidents, now living in the Soviet Union, arrived in Seoul Monday on a nine-day visit to South Korea at the invitation of Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC).

The North Koreans, including former vice home minister Kang Sang-ho, were formerly high-ranking officials in the North Korean Government but defected to the Soviet Union after they were purged by North Korean leader Kim Il-song, an MBC official said. During their stay until June 25, the Korean Soviets will visit the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) dividing the two Koreas as well as industrial complexes such as Pohang Iron and Steel Co., the official said.

They are to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun and appear in MBC and KBS (Korea Broadcasting System) television programs, according to the official. The anti-Pyongyang figures are expected to unveil stories behind the North Korean invasion of the South in 1950, he said. They also include Sim Su-chol and Pak Pyong-yun, former generals in the North Korean army, Chang Sang-kon, former vice minister of culture, Song Chin-pa, former director-general of the Ministry of Culture.

Kang Sang-ho, a former lieutenant general who reportedly played a major role in Kim Il-song's decision to invade the South, is regarded as a core figure of the anti-Kim Il-song campaign in the Soviet Union, the official said.

Pak, a former major general, was a core figure of North Korea's anti-South activities after the Korean war, the official said.

U.S., Japan Must Discourage North 'Adventurism'

SK1906024690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Jun 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Nuclear Arms for North Korea"]

[Text] Reports originating overseas indicate that Communist North Korea could possess its own nuclear weapons within six months, a far cry from the previous reports that it would have them "within five years." What's more, the reports on North Korea's much advanced nuclear schedule allegedly came from the intelligence sources of the Soviet Union.

This disclosure is certainly flagrant enough to frustrate our high hopes for drastically reduced tension and much improved relations between the South and North on this peninsula, let alone grossly militating against the current widespread mood of detente and reconciliation engulfing most parts of the globe. The revelation also shows that North Korea has never changed its policy of a dual mentality, continuing vicious preparations for resuming military provocations while employing ostensibly peaceful offensives; when Pyongyang plays up dialogue and conciliation, one should see through the veneer to grasp the enormity of its concealed aggressive design.

This alerts us to its belligerent adventurism. North Korea already operates a nuclear fuel processing plant and a research reactor in addition to another research reactor under construction. Such nuclear facilities are capable of producing plutonium 239, the material used for atomic bombs.

As a result of such constant buildup, North Korea already enjoys a clear numerical advantage over the South in almost every aspect of combat strength. Though numerical advantage should not mean absolute superiority, this edge warrants vigilance on our part.

Viewed in this light, the recent move by the United States and Japan to improve their respective ties with Pyongyang is cause for concern. Any attempt to deepen their contacts with the North Korean regime makes it necessary for them to ensure, or at least to move in that direction, that Pyongyang is no longer intent upon aggressive actions. The ongoing transitional period toward detente seems to put Pyongyang in a dilemma that could lead it to resort to adventurism. This does not allow us to be caught off guard.

Both the United States and Japan must discourage the North from becoming adventurous, for which nuclear capability surely would be a temptation. For our part, we should remain resolute enough to convince Pyongyang that a genuinely peaceful approach is the only way to keep it from self-destruction, as well as bail the North Koreans out of their present predicament.

North's Missile Base Construction Denounced

SK1906020890 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 16 Jun 90 p 2

[Editorial: "North Korea's Construction of Nuclear Base in DMZ"]

[Text] In testimony before the U.S. Congress as soon as he returned from a visit to Seoul in February, U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney warned North Korea's nuclear development plan is threatening East Asian security. At that time, an international atmosphere of reconciliation and disarmament was maturing in East Europe, prompted by the trend of democratic reform in

the socialist countries, and all states in the East and West were declaring an end to the postwar cold war system. Accordingly, North Korea's nuclear development, which was verified internationally last year, appeared to be reckless maneuvers to prepare for war, running counter to this international trend.

It has been learned North Korea this time is constructing two new guided missile launching sites in the Demilitarized Zone [DMZ] on the Korean peninsula. This new guided missile, which North Korea developed by improving on the Soviet-made Skud-B missile, has a range estimated at 500 to 600 kilometers. Thus, the entire area of South Korea is within its range. Furthermore, it was learned this missile is capable of launching nuclear and chemical warheads. This indeed is a serious situation for security on the Korean peninsula.

North Korea's construction of missile launching bases was confirmed by a U.S. intelligence satellite early this month, and our vigilance has been heightened. The nuclear development and nuclear-delivery capability achieved by North Korea, as well as deployment of such means in actual war, not only run counter to the new international atmosphere of detente and to disarmament policy, but also will be a practical factor that basically destroys the military balance on the Korean peninsula and heightens tension in East Asia.

For a long time, North Korea has deployed 70 percent of its entire troop strength in the forward areas along the armistice line. In particular, all offensive fighting power, including surface-to-air missiles, tractor-drawn artillery [kyonim po], tanks, armored cars and self-propelled guns, which are easily mobilized between the rear area and front line in time of war and in case of a surprise attack, have been deployed and concealed in the forward areas along the armistice line.

It is true that, prompted by the recent international trend, discussions on arms control and arms reduction are being briskly held. In addition, our side's effort and measures for dialogue include concrete disarmament negotiation plans. The North Korean authorities also have recently put forward several proposals on the issue of disarmament between North and South Korea. Judging from what was reported, however, North Korea's spoken attitude proved to be different from the truth. Since what North Korea says and does are different, its attitude and intentions are different, and moreover, such difference is related to the military questions concerning relaxation of tension and consolidation of peace on the Korean peninsula, we have no choice but to work out various measures to cope with such double-dealing tactics by North Korea.

North Korea refused to sign the international nuclear safety agreement despite inducement and pressure by the international community, including the United States and the Soviet Union. If North Korea's refusal is related to its construction of nuclear bases in the DMZ on the armistice line, this should not be overlooked. We think the U.S.-North Korea contact, which is reported to have been held in Beijing and other places, even after the ROK-USSR summit talks, also should deal with North Korea signing the nuclear safety agreement.

We now should clearly show our position toward North Korea's nuclear development and construction of new missile bases. While North Korea constantly calls for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and withdrawal of U.S. troops, we hope it will not make an unwise choice.

Reports on North's Nuclear Ability 'Speculation'

SK1906100790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0905 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Science and Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo on Monday responded cautiously to reports that North Korea will develop an offensive nuclear capability by the end of the year.

Returning from Vienna, where he attended an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors' meeting, Chong told reporters that it remained simple speculation whether North Korea had acquired the technological know-how indispensable for developing nuclear weapons.

"North Korea has a 30,000 kw-class experimental nuclear reactor at Yongbyon, 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang, and we cannot deny that it could make plutonium out of nuclear fuel used in the reactor, but it has not been confirmed if North Korea is equipped with processing facilities to extract high purity plutonium," he said.

Assuming that North Korea is now ready to develop nuclear weapons, he said, it is highly likely that they would use plutonium rather than concentrated uranium as raw material for the weapons, agreeing with foreign news reports. The 51-year-old Chong is an atomic expert and chairman of the IAEA General Assembly.

"The development of nuclear weapons is a matter of politics rather than of technology and primitive nuclear weapons can be made out of 1940s' technology, though state-of-the-art nukes are a different story," he said. "University students have the technological know-how to make a nuclear bomb."

North Korea has invited worldwide suspicion by refusing to sign the IAEA's nuclear safeguards agreement for 36 months after elapse of the 18-month signing period that began when it joined the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty in december 1985.

"During the IAEA Board of Governors meeting, representatives from 20 nations, including the United States, the Soviet Union and East Germany, out of the 35 board nations, strongly urged North Korea to sign the agreement," Chong said. Signing would require Pyongyang to open its nuclear facilities to international scrutiny, and

so far North Korea has repeatedly said it would sign the agreement only if all U.S. troops and all nuclear arms were first removed from the South.

"As North Korea informed the IAEA Board of Governors meeting, if Pyongyang sends negotiators to Vienna around July 10 and signs the accord, a provisional Board of Governors meeting will be held immediately to deal with the matter," Chong said. "However, if the North keeps withholding its signature without reaching the right conclusion, my sampling of international public opinion (in Vienna) tells me that North Korea will come under open fire from lots of nations.

"The possibility of North Korea's signing the accord is 50-50 and we have to wait and see what North Korea comes up with in two months. The bright side lies in North Korea's willingness to send negotiators and in its camouflaged but apparent bid not to be isolated."

Korea-U.S. Business Council Conducts Conference

Yi on 'Trade Friction'

SK1806131290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 18 (OANA-YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun on Monday blamed trade friction between South Korea and the United States in the 1980s on protectionist sentiment in the United States, but admitted the rapid increase in Korea's trade surplus and its relatively closed markets were major contributing factors.

In a keynote speech to the Korea-U.S. Business Council, Yi said Korea's trade surplus with the United States in the 1980s was not unique and U.S. trade accounts with all trade partners were rapidly deteriorating, except with oil exporting nations. The rising U.S. trade deficit could not have been directly caused by closed Korean markets, he said, noting that Korea began to record trade surpluses in the early 1980s despite accelerated opening of markets.

"More importantly, the trade tensions seem to have stemmed from a misunderstanding of the aims and function of the Korean government in economic activities," Yi said. The Korean Government tried to minimize its intervention in the economy and pursued "private-sector-led growth" as opposed to "government-led growth" from the early 1980s, Yi said.

Trade between the two countries is nearly balanced, he said. In the first four months of the year, Korean exports to the United States were 6.8 percent lower than in the same period last year while imports were up 18.3 percent. Korea's surplus on a customs clearance basis declined from 1.6 billion dollars in the first four months of last year to 0.4 billion dollars in the same period this year. He accused the United States of interventionist practices in areas affecting imports from Korea, such as "voluntary" restraints on steel and quota restrictions under the multi-fiber arrangement.

Noting that U.S. protectionism may give rise to protectionist argument in Korea, Yi said, "It would greatly help our efforts to reduce government intervention if the United States reduced government intervention in restricting imports." U.S.-Korea relations are changing significantly, along with rapid economic and political changes throughout the world, Yi said, adding that the bilateral economic relationship should be broadened.

"Rather than somewhat narrowly focusing on bilateral issues and conflicting concerns, as in the 1980s, we should strive for a mutually beneficial partnership in the 1990s and eventually move in the direction of pan-Pacific cooperation in the 21st Century," he said.

About 80 Korean and U.S. business leaders are attending the two-day conference on bilateral trade, investment and technology cooperation. Nam Tok-u, president of the Korea Foreign Trade Association, leads the Korean delegation while the U.S. team is headed by David Roderick, a former chairman of USX Corp.

U.S. High-Tech Transfer Urged

SK1906040890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0224 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (YONHAP)—South Korean and U.S. business leaders agreed Monday to seek joint ventures in the Soviet Union and the East bloc.

In the third conference of the Korea-U.S. Business Council at a hotel here, it was agreed to form a working-level committee to study joint ventures. The Korean side called for the United States to transfer high technology in the bionics, aviation and superconductivity fields while the U.S. businessmen urged Korea to open its financial, service and communications markets and improve protection of intellectual property rights.

Nam Tok-u, president of the Korea Foreign Trade Association, led the 34 top businessmen on the Korean delegation while David Roderick, former chairman of USX Corp., headed the 43-man U.S. delegation to the council meeting. In the technology subcommittee meeting, the Korean delegates urged that the United States simplify procedures for the transfer of advanced industrial technologies to Korean firms and install private or government-level channels for the exchange of technology and information.

In the manufacturing subcommittee, the two sides shared the view that there is ample possibility for Korean-American partnership in business in Eastern Europe and agreed to form a working-level committee to that end. The working-level panel will discuss in detail possible joint venture fields at a meeting in Hawaii next January.

Korean delegates said there are considerable problems in U.S. practices and application of dumping activities and

the Americans called for the Korean Government to make a timetable for opening the financial and service markets. Roderick said after the meeting that the Korea-U.S. Business Council was at the stage of working out concrete ways to cooperate. He said the manufacturing subcommittee discussed in depth Korean requests on U.S. trade practices and the matter of jointly making inroads in Eastern Europe.

Seoul To Pay To Move U.S. Base Outside City

SK1906005690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0048 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea will shoulder the entire cost of moving the U.S. military base in downtown Seoul to the countryside, Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun said Monday. The cost is estimated at 300 million U.S. dollars.

Seoul and Washington have a basic agreement that Korea will purchase the land and pay for construction of a new base, while the United States will bear the base's maintenance costs, and will exchange a memorandum of agreement by the end of June, Yi said.

Agreement on relocating the Yongsan Base by the mid-1990s was reached on May 3 last year, but exchange of a memorandum was deferred due to differences over who would pay for the move. The Korean Government owns Yongsan Base, which sprawls across the center of Seoul, and has plans to convert it into a public park after the Americans move out.

U.S.-North Talks on Liaison Offices Under Way

SK1906012590 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Despite the U.S. Administration's official denial, the United States and North Korea are negotiating opening liaison offices respectively in Washington and Pyongyang, according to THE WASHINGTON TIMES today.

The talks for opening a U.S. liaison office in Pyongyang are taken to mean the United States and North Korea are establishing relations. Correspondent Na Hyong-su reports from Washington:

[Begin Na Hyong-su recording] THE WASHINGTON TIMES today quoted an expert as saying the United States and North Korea have held several rounds of talks on simultaneously opening liaison offices in Washington and Pyongyang. Quoting Kim Yong-chin, a professor at George Washington University, THE WASHINGTON TIMES reported Prof. Kim recently had discussed with North Korean officials in Beijing opening these liaison offices.

Denying this, however, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department in charge of Korean affairs said the United States does not find it necessary to discuss bilateral diplomatic affairs with North Korea through Prof. Kim rather than through U.S. officials, as the two countries can have direct talks at the political counselors level in Beijing. [end recording]

U.S. De ies Soviets Supplied Facts on DPRK

SK1906014890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0136 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Washington, June 18 (OANA-YONHAP)—The U.S. State Department has denied being told by the Soviet Union that North Korea will have nuclear weapons within six months. Recent reports were completely false and the United States was not informed by Soviet officials as reported, a State Department spokesman said Monday.

The United States was concerned because North Korea has not joined the nuclear safeguards agreement of the International Atomic Energy Agency, but anticipates along with the Soviet Union that North Korea will sign the agreement as soon as possible, he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which North Korea joined in December 1985, the safeguards agreement is to be signed within 18 months of joining the treaty, but there is no provision to enforce the regulation.

Meanwhile, sources at the Korean Embassy expressed doubt that North Korea could develop nuclear devices within six months and denied Seoul-based reports that the Korean Government had ordered the embassy to confirm the reports, which originated in London with the latest issue of the SUNDAY TIMES.

Survey: Majority Want U.S. Troops To Remain

SK1906040090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0207 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (YONHAP)—The majority of South Koreans do not wish to see U.S. troops leave Korea until their country is capable of defending itself, according to a survey released by the Information Ministry Tuesday.

The Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) questioned 2,300 randomly sampled men and women over 19 years of age across Korea, except for Cheju Island, for the survey, commissioned by the Information Ministry.

In the interviews, 63.6 percent said American troops should stay until South Korea is capable of defending itself and 20.3 percent said they should stay until Korea has been united.

Most Koreans had a bleak view of reunification of the Korean peninsula, with 22 percent saying the possibility was "high," 59.9 percent "low" and 18 percent "don't know."

To improve inter-Korean relations, 45.7 percent said the first step should be to reunite families and exchange

correspondence, while 18.7 percent called for dialogue between the top leaders of the two halves.

On the outbreak of the Korean war on June 25, 40 years ago, 75.9 percent said the North Korean communists invaded the South.

Some 44 percent said North Korea should take the greatest responsibility for the fratricidal war and 26.6 percent said the Soviet Union was most responsible. Those saying the United States was most responsible for the war amounted to 17.6 percent.

The ministry said 53 percent of the respondents blamed North Korea for the deadlock in inter-Korean dialogue while 44 percent said both South and North were responsible for the talks making such little progress. Nearly 70 percent said North Korea has no will to talk with the South.

Some 72 percent said they could explain the superiority of the South Korean system to North Koreans with confidence.

On North Korean leader Kim Il-song's transfer of power to his eldest son, Chong-Il, 82.3 percent forecast "failure" and 16.9 percent predicted "success."

In response to the words "North Korea," 42 percent said worship of Kim Il-song, 18 percent communism, 14.2 percent closed society, 12.1 percent "the same blood people" and 11.4 percent the Korean war.

Nearly 77 percent said they had watched documentaries about North Korean society on television and 62 percent said they hoped to see many more such programs.

Hyundai Drops Bid for Soviet Debt Compensation

SK1406025290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—Hyundai Corp., owed money by the Soviet Union for a shipment of laundry soap, has withdrawn its application for compensation from the Export-Import Bank of Korea, the bank said Thursday.

Hyundai Corp., the trading arm of the Hyundai Business Group, had demanded payment from the bank, in the form of export credit insurance money, of 1.8 million U.S. dollars unpaid by the Soviet Union on 5 million dollars worth of laundry soap imported last year. The bank said, however, it was not obliged to compensate for the Soviet non-payment as Hyundai broke a regulation by failing to inform the bank within the required period that Hyundai had accepted a 20-day bill from the Soviet importer.

It also said Hyundai concealed the fact that there already had been payment delays in its trade with Soviet Union. Bank officials said Hyundai informed the bank that it withdrew the demand because it was notified by the Soviet importer that the outstanding money would be forthcoming.

Artists To Make Publicity Tour of USSR

SK1506015090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0047 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Ten South Korean artists and art critics plan to visit the Soviet Union for two weeks from Aug. 4 on a publicity tour, the Korea Art Critics Society said Friday.

The trip, part of the society's program of introducing Korean culture and arts to communist nations, follows a similar visit to China last year and precedes one to Mongolia next year.

The 10 include music critic and society President Yusin, literary critic Choe Il-su, novelist Choe Mi-na, dancer Kim Kun-hui, art critic Yi Ku-yol, and drama critic Kim Hong-u.

Critic Kim said an official invitation was expected from the Soviet writers union over the weekend.

"We asked novelist Ho Chin, 62, vice president of the Koreans association in the Soviet Union, to arrange for the visit when he visited Seoul last fall. After exchanging correspondence with the Soviet writers union several times, we got a positive response from the union and sent a list of visitors last week," he said.

While in Moscow, the visitors will meet with Soviet artists and ethnic Koreans in Tashkent and Alma Ata. Dancer Kim plans to perform in Leningrad, critic Kim said.

The society intends to invite over 10 members of the writers union to visit Seoul at the end of October.

Hyundai Founder to Siberia for Lumber Negotiation

SK1506070490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0649 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, founder and honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group, left Seoul for the Yakutsk Autonomous Republic of the Soviet Union on Friday to wrap up negotiations on Hyundai's development of forestry resources in Siberia.

Chong said at Seoul's Kimpo Airport that the first lumber from the Svetlaya area could arrive in Korea in September or October. Hyundai will send equipment and materials to Yakutsk to begin the development project this month, Chong said. About 50 million U.S. dollars worth of Svetlaya wood will be shipped to Korea this year.

Next year, when the forest development project is in full swing, about 200 million dollars worth of lumber will arrive in Korea, accounting for over 25 percent of the nation's lumber imports of 800 million to 900 million

dollars. Workers from the Soviet Union and from China's Jilin Province will be employed by Hyundai in Siberia, he said. He also said Aleksandr Zateyev, vice president of the Ministers Council of Yakutsk, had invited him and that negotiations with Yakutsk officials on development of other natural resources such as natural gas was a major purpose of his visit.

On the much touted construction of a natural gas pipeline from the Soviet Union to South Korea, passing through North Korea, Chong said Hyundai would continue to discuss the matter with Soviet and North Korean representatives. He said that delay of payment by the Soviet Union was not a concern and that excessive competition among Korean companies in the Middle East construction market in the 1970s would not be repeated in the Soviet Union.

Chong plans to meet with Soviet federal government economists in Moscow to discuss economic issues pending between the two nations, including conclusion of an investment guarantee. He is scheduled to return home on June 28.

Executives Form Korean-Soviet Businessmen Club

SK1506063290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0541 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Forty South Korean business executives have decided to form a "Korean-Soviet businessmen's club" on July 1 to exchange information and to discuss economic cooperation.

In a breakfast meeting Friday, Chong Chu-yong, four[illegible] of the Hyundai Group, and the other businessmen picked Pak Sung-sang, president of the Korea Institute for Economics and Technology (KIET), as head of the proposed club. The meeting was attended by Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economics.

The club will meet once a month to play golf and will have occasional breakfasts to exchange views on economic cooperation between Seoul and Moscow. Initiating members are Chong, Yi Myong-pak, chairman of the Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co., Yi Pil-kon, chairman of Samsung Co., and Choe Chong-hwan, chairman of the Samwhan Enterprise Co. The club is expected to be a private version of the proposed government-private "northern economics cooperation committee."

Kim asked the businessmen to positively participate in the government's northern policies and refrain from excessive competition. He explained the background of the Korean-Soviet summit meeting and the government's economic policy toward the Soviet Union. Delay of payment is a temporary phenomenon stemming from reforms in the Soviet Union, Kim said, and there is no need to doubt the Soviet ability to pay.

He said Korean companies should have sufficient knowledge and information about the Soviet Union to do business with it, and should refrain from excessive competition, as the construction industry did in the Middle East.

Representatives of the fisheries industry urged the government to make efforts to win permission for Korean fishing boats to operate in Soviet waters. They also requested urgent action by the government to conclude a fisheries agreement with the Soviet Union.

Kotra Selects 20 'Strategic' Exports to USSR

SK1706003590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 Jun 90 p 8

[Text] The Korea Trade Promotion Corporation [Kotra] has selected 20 items as strategic export goods to the Soviet Union with which Korea is rapidly improving political and economic relations.

The 20 "strategic items" were chosen, based on trade results between the two countries over the past few years. The state-run company plans to draw up a set of supporting measures to help increase the exportation of those items to the communist superpower while seeking to obtain government assistance.

The 20 items are personal computers, steel, electric parts, motors, microwave ovens, TV production equipment, tooth paste, soaps, detergents, rubber gloves, garments, metal kitchenware, storage batteries, automobile batteries, facsimiles, motor vehicles and cameras.

In a bid to promote sales of these 20 items, Kotra plans to send a large-scale sales mission to several major cities in the Soviet Union, including Leningrad and Kiev, in October.

Samsung, Soviet Academy Join Forces in Project

SK1806135090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0818 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 18 (OANA-YONHAP)—A top South Korean business group and the Soviet Academy of Sciences have agreed to join forces in a project to commercialize Soviet technology, a former Korean prime minister said on his return from Moscow Monday. Sin Hyon-hwak, chairman of Samsung Co., a trading arm of the Samsung Business Group, said in an arrival statement that Soviet specialists would supply a list of items in the machinery, chemistry and electronics fields and that Samsung would select those suitable for commercialization.

Sin, who made a week-long visit to Moscow as a guest of academy director G.I. Marchuk, said the two sides had yet to conclude a deal regarding joint commercialization.

He denied that he had carried a written message from President No Tae-u to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in which No had called for the early normalization of diplomatic ties and exchange visits by the two heads of state. "Press reports have nothing to do with me," he said.

The message, according to the reports, was handed to Anatoliy Dobrynin, a former Soviet ambassador to the United States and an adviser to Gorbachev as well as a key player in arranging the No-Gorbachev meeting in San Francisco on June 4. Sin admitted meeting with Dobrynin, but said it was not to deliver a message but to hand over photo album of his visit to Seoul.

He said he met with high-ranking Soviet officials during his Moscow visit and told them that the two countries should set up full diplomatic ties to promote economic cooperation. The Soviet officials were quoted by Sin as saying the Soviet Union was proceeding step by step with preparations to normalize ties.

Hyundai Barges To Transport Siberian Wood

SK1906021090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Jun 90 p 8

[Text] The Hyundai business group plans to deploy two large barges to bring in timber from Siberia of the Soviet Union, shipping sources said yesterday. The sources said that Hyundai will be able to develop forestry in Siberia jointly with the Soviets in the wake of the Korea-Soviet summit talks and the recent visit by Hyundai's founder Chong Chu-yong to Moscow.

In this connection, Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., a subsidiary of the business group, is prepared to deploy two barges—one 26,000-ton vessel and another 21,000-ton vessel—to transport the timber. Hyundai plans to bring in the timber to the ports of Pusan, Inchon and Tonghae.

Prior to full development of Svetlaja Port, the company will use smaller barges in transporting the timber. Soviet forestry authorities are scheduled to complete the development of Svetlaja Port by the end of this year, the sources said. When the port is developed, large barges will be able to berth at the port, the sources added.

The Hyundai group expects that imports of wood products from the Soviet Union will be worth $50 million this year, $100 million next year and $200 million in 1992 and thereafter.

In view of import trends, Hyundai Merchant Marine plans to increase the fleet to meet demands.

Foreign Ministry Confirms Deng Zhifang Visit

SK1906101090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0955 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry confirmed Tuesday that Deng Zhifang, 39, the second son of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, recently visited Seoul at the invitation of a leading South Korean business group.

Ministry spokesman Chong Ui-yong said that he could find out that Deng Zhifang arrived in Seoul on May 25 for a two-day stay at the invitation of the Samsung Business Group.

Deng was known to have discussed with Samsung officials business deals and visited research institutes owned by the business group, according to Chong.

Chong denied reports that Deng met also with senior government officials.

Presidential Aide Denies No To Visit PRC

SK1906093090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0920 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—A top presidential aide denied news reports Tuesday that President No Tae-u would visit China during the Asian Games in September and meet with Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping. "It is groundless and untrue," No Chae-pong, chief of the Presidential Secretariat, said when asked to comment on a report carried by a Seoul daily.

"We seek improved relations with China, but we have yet to reach that stage," No said. He also worried that rumors of a trip to Beijing and a meeting with Deng might be part of a propaganda effort to derail moves to improve ties between South Korea and China.

The KUKMIN ILBO, quoting an informed political source, reported that Korea and China had secretly agreed to a No-Deng summit meeting during the Asian sports meet. It said the agreement was reached when a high-ranking Korean government official visited Beijing recently.

The meeting would be in the form of a courtesy call on the Chinese leader during the Asiad, the newspaper said. It said No and Deng were expected to discuss ways to improve relations between the two countries, which have no diplomatic ties, the signing of economic cooperation accords, such as investment protection and prevention of the double taxation agreements, and an exchange of consular departments as a precursor to formal diplomatic ties.

No also denied wire service reports that Deng Zhifang, Deng's businessman son, secretly visited Seoul and met with high-ranking government officials. "As far as I know, the reports are untrue," the presidential aide said.

Kotra Seeks Offices in China, Vietnam

SK1906041290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0249 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 19 (YONHAP)—The Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra) seeks to open offices in Beijing, Ho Chi Minh city and Bucharest on as yet undecided

dates, bringing to 10 the number of South Korean trade offices in socialist nations, Kotra President Yi Sun-ki said Monday.

Yi told a news conference the offices would expand economic exchanges with socialist nations, with many of which political and economic ties are being fostered under a positive diplomatic initiative.

In China, consultations to establish a trade office were suspended due to Chinese domestic matters in May 1989, but will resume sooner or later, Yi said.

Korea trade center buildings may be built in potentially big markets such as the Soviet Union and Canada, he said.

Japanese Socialists Help Arrange Marathon

SK1306015090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Jun 90 p 11

[Text] Tokyo (AP)—The Asian amateur Athletic Association has asked North Korea to cooperate in staging an international relay marathon in 1991 between the North and South Korean capitals, the Japan Socialist Party said Tuesday. JSP official Shinichi Sakamoto said the request was contained in a letter from Seiko Yasuda, president of the association, to North Korea.

The letter was handed Tuesday by JSP Vice Chairman Makito Tanabe to Yi Chong-il, head of a North Korean friendship delegation that has been visiting Japan since May 29, he said. Sakamoto said Yi promised to deliver it to officials concerned.

He said Yasuda was asking North Korea to cooperate in staging a 200km international relay marathon between Pyongyang and Seoul.

Yasuda was not available for comment. He is in Beijing for an Asian junior track and field meet.

But the mass-circulated newspaper Asahi Shimbun said the Asian Amateur Athletic Association hoped to stage the marathon together with the Third World Athletic Competition, scheduled in Tokyo Aug. 23-Sept. 1, 1991.

Suicide Attempt in Front of Japanese Embassy

SK1306034690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] An elderly woman was listed in critical condition Monday after swallowing poison to demand Japan pay compensation to Korean victims of atomic bombs during World War II. Yi Mang-hui, 65 had been distributing leaflets, addressed to President No Tae-u, to pedestrians in front of the Japanese Embassy before she drank a bottle of poison, the embassy's security guards on duty said. She was immediately rushed to the nearby Hanguk General Hospital.

Her family members, sent to Japan to do forced labor, were killed when the nuclear bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima during World War II, the leaflet said. She said her husband died of radiation-related disease in 1980 and her children are also suffering from the same diseases.

In a letter to the president, she demanded that the Chief Executive make efforts to have Japan pay compensation to Korean A-bomb victims.

Yi, accompanied by her parents, was taken to Japan in 1926 at the age of one and married a Korean man there. At the time of the atomic bombing, they were celebrating the second birthday of their eldest son in Hiroshima. Her parents died on the spot. The couple returned to Korea after the war and lived in Masan, her birthplace.

Of her seven children, Yi said in the leaflet that two had died shortly after birth and four left home because of chronic illnesses resulting from their parents' exposure to radiation. Now, she lives with her youngest son in an apartment in Tongsong-tong.

Korean GNP Ranked 13 in World by Bank

SK1406031290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0241 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea has the world's 13th largest economy, with a gross national product (GNP) of 210 billion U.S. dollars last year, the Bank of Korea (BOK) said Thursday.

Korea is believed to have ascended in GNP ranking from 30th among the 152 members of the International Monetary Fund in 1970 to 27th in 1980 and 15th in 1988.

BOK forecast that Korea will enter the top 10 in three or four years, if its economy continues to expand 10 percent annually.

The United States was first with a GNP of 4.88 trillion dollars, followed by Japan with 2.85 trillion dollars, West Germany with 1.2 trillion dollars, France with 949 billion dollars and Britain with 832 billion dollars. China ranked 8th with 376 billion dollars.

In per capita GNP ranking, Korea is 30th with 4,968 dollars, up from 68th in 1970, 53rd in 1980, and 33rd in 1988, the bank said.

Per capita exports grew from 26 dollars in 1970 to 459 dollars in 1980 and 1,472 dollars in 1989, compared with Japan's 2,232 dollars and Taiwan's 3,294 dollars.

Seoul Bids To Join IAEA Conventions

SK1406024290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0114 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea has applied to join two accords of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on prevention of nuclear accidents, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday.

The convention on early notification of a nuclear accident, and the convention on assistance in the case of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency take effect July 9, he said.

Under the accords, after a nuclear accident, the government should immediately notify nations within the danger area and can call for help from neighboring nations and the IAEA, he said.

In Korea, nuclear energy is used to produce about 51 percent of electric power.

Poll Shows Korean Exports Less Competitive

SK1506045090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0253 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean exports are under attack from Southeast Asian countries, and their quality and price competitiveness is weakening.

Korea Foreign Traders Association polled 454 buying offices here, and 57.3 percent said Korean products are "more or less expensive," while only 11.8 percent thought they are cheap.

On quality, 35.6 percent said Korean goods are "superior," down from 46.7 percent in a similar survey in 1987, while 9.2 percent answered "inferior," up from 4.1 percent.

Only 17.2 percent said Korean goods have a comparative superiority in international competition, compared with 44.8 percent who noted inferiority.

Nearly one third (30.3 percent) of the buyers said they were considering sending importers to other countries, including the ASEAN nations, China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, chiefly because of price reasons.

Burma

Saw Maung Speaks on Elections, Constitution

BK1806162690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and the Commission for Compiling Authentic Facts on Myanmar [Burmese] History held a fourth meeting in the operations room of the Office of the Army Chief of Staff at 0920 today. [passage omitted] In his concluding speech at the meeting, Senior General Saw Maung said:

[Begin Saw Maung recording] We will do whatever needs to be done. I do not break a promise. At this point, I wish to take this opportunity to say a few concluding words. My speech is addressed not only to the commission but also to the whole country. This will go into the records.

Today, we have already held the multiparty elections. What follows is that in recent times, foreign radio stations have been saying all sorts of things, particularly about the questions of power transfer. What must be understood is that, personally, I do think this is a matter that can be talked about easily, done easily, and [the constitution] drated easily. That is what I want to say.

Whatever may have happened, our country since 4 January 1948 has been liberated from bondage and has become a completely independent nation, and this is something that we should not forget. That is what I understand. We must bear in mind that our nation is not one that takes orders from abroad.

Just as the election results have come out, our nation has changed from a one-party system to a multiparty one.

From the points I have stated earlier, it is evident that the 1947 constitution was drafted according to the wish of the British. We can generally say that the Revolutionary Council emerged [in 1962] because of the secessionist rights [for ethnic national states] in that constitution. I believe that this point will be included in the historical facts being compiled by the commission.

The Revolutionary Council is in fact a legal government. It is also true that the 1974 Constitution was drafted through a national referendum. Once the 1974 Constitution was passed, I believe, the question of secessionist rights ceased to be valid. In the same say, the Mon State, the Rakhine [Arakan] State, and the others that were not mentioned in the 1947 Constitution came into existence under the 1974 constitutional law. It is also true that the Chin Special Division has become the Chin State.

The SLORC government today can also be said to be a legal government, a government recognized by the world. It is also an indisputable fact that we are a member state of the United Nations. The fact is that the government in charge today, or the SLORC, does not abide by any constitution. It is a system accepted by all world nations, is it not?

General Aung San joined the government in 1946 in accordance with the law of the British. This is also an irrefutable fact, and we must take note. I think that after listening to what I have said so far, you will know what you should do today. What I want to say is it must be understood that a strong constitution is needed so problems will not emerge in the future.

On the other hand, we will not attach importance to what the insurgents have been saying. In fact, the insurgents even said something this morning. What did they say? [end recording]

[Begin recording of unidentified person] I will read out what was said. The insurgent organizations in Myanmar say they will launch new offensives if the military government does not honor the results of the elections held in Myanmar last month. [end recording]

[Begin Saw Maung recording] [laughs] We do not care about what these insurgents say. There is no reason to care about them. The SLORC government today is also the Defense Services, which have been fighting the insurgents since independence. To look back at their announcement stated just now, we can only say that they have but two camps left because of our attacks—their headquarters at Manerplaw and the new Wang Kha camp. If they wish to stage strong offensives, they may be our guests. We do not mind. Because of the efforts of the SLORC, law and order prevails and there is calm and quiet. That is the situation in our country today, and no one can deny it.

As I have said before—I said it once before—we will not accept any attempt to revert back to the situation in 1988. I have made my decision that we will face any adversity. We have done whatever is needed to be done, and that is known to all. Anyone with goodwill and those who understand history and the law accept this fact. This is something to note. We have said very frequently that with the exception of the insurgent organizations, there are no opposition parties to us.

I have already said it before, that a state constitution is the lifeline of a nation. A constitution is a law that concerns all citizens, including the public service personnel. That includes us, the soldiers. This is a point to note. On our part, we all will do whatever is necessary.

We have already declared our three tasks—preventing the disintegration of the union, preventing the disintegration of national unity, and safeguarding the sovereignty of the nation. In conclusion, I would like to say that it is vital that when doing things, care should be taken not to affect these three causes. [end recording]

The meeting between the SLORC and the Commission for Compiling Authentic Facts on Myanmar History ended at 1030.

Thai Paper Corrects Bo Mya Statement

BK1506022790

Bangkok THE NATION in English on 15 June 1990 on page 5 publishes a correction in regard to the item headlined "Resistance Leader Says Rejects 1947 Constitution," published in the 13 June East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 31.

The correction states: "General Bo Mya, president of the anti-Rangoon Democratic Alliance of Burma, was misquoted in a page 2 story in the June 13 issue of THE NATION as dismissing the likelihood of a deal between the National League for Democracy (NLD) and the Rangoon government. However Bo Mya said there was a possibility of a power sharing arrangement because one of the NLD wings was composed of ex-army officers and there was a good chance the two sides could talk. We regret the error."

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Says MTUC Supports Foreign Interest

BK1806152190 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 9 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said the Malaysian Trade Union Congress [MTUC] is not advocating the interest of the country's workers but is more concerned with the welfare of workers in the United States. He said the MTUC leader's support for the withdrawal of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) status indicated that the organization desires that Malaysian workers be unemployed.

Speaking to reporters after launching the national-level Teacher's Day today [8 June], he said, "This is the struggle that the MTUC declared as protecting the workers rights. But for which workers?"

He also commented on the move taken by another organization, the International Brotherhood of Electronic Workers (IBEW), which also urged the U.S. Administration to withdraw GSP status to Malaysia. The IBEW made the move alleging that because of the GSP, about 30,000 workers in the country's telecommunications production industry were rendered unemployed.

According to the prime minister, the labor unions in the United States will make no effort to protect Malaysian workers who were alleged to have been suppressed by the Malaysian Government; they will only protect their own interest. He said, "They want to see GSP status withdrawn so that Malaysian workers will become unemployed, thereby making sure they will keep their jobs."

He said the United States will definitely review on an annual basis every American organization's petition concerning the GSP status that country affords to other nations.

He added, "We also know that there are certain parties who will resort to any effort to have those privileges revoked. That is their system. If we present the facts, the problem will be temporarily resolved for this year alone. As for next year, there will be other organization leaders from our country who will try again. The MTUC will surely want to support its "international brotherhood" by urging the withdrawal of GSP status.

The four petitions to withdraw GSP status were forwarded by the International Brotherhood of Electronic Workers (IBEW); the International Labor Rights, Educational and Research Foundation (ILRERF); the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO); and the joint petition by the Oil-DRI Corporation and the American Exporters of Eggs and Agriculture Produce.

Official Offers Venue for Security Negotiations

BK1906094190 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Malaysia can play a role in enhancing political and security cooperation among countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Toward this end, the country could be the venue for negotiations.

Foreign Ministry Secretary General Datuk Ahmad Kamil Jaafar was commenting on remarks by the director general of the Institute of Strategic and International Studies, ISIS, Dr. Noordin Sophie. In his opening remarks at the fourth Asia-Pacific roundtable on (?confidence) building and conflict reduction in the Pacific, Dr. Noordin said there were suggestions for a Pacific Stockholm and Pacific Helsinki. He was referring to the frequent meetings in the two European capitals among West European and North American countries to negotiate security and build up confidence in the two continents.

Dr. Noordin said Malaysia could provide a neutral ground for such negotiations in view of its wise diplomacy to be friends with all.

20 Vietnamese Refugees Leave for Home 9 Jun

BK0906090990 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Another 20 Vietnamese refugees left for home this morning under the voluntary repatriation scheme. The 19 men and 1 woman were part of a group of 29 of which the remaining 9 will leave on Wednesday. A total of 126 refugees have so far gone back from Malaysia voluntarily since the scheme began in June last year. The repatriation began in February this year. The [words indistinct] officer of the United Nations High Commission for

Refugees, (Marion Hoffman), said about 100 more refugees had applied for repatriation. She said of these, 19 have been accepted and are awaiting departure arrangements. She said the response toward the scheme was now more encouraging compared to last year.

UN Official on 'Wave' of Cambodian Refugees

BK1606065690 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] A United Nations official says a new wave of Cambodian refugees are landing in Malaysia. The country is already sheltering about 17,500 Vietnamese refugees. The representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to Malaysia, Eric Morris, said an estimated 200 to 300 Cambodians had landed in Malaysia in the past several months. The UN agency was looking into matter, as it was not easy to define nationality. He said discussions were being held with Malaysian authorities on their possible repatriation.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Claims Victory in Kompong Thom

BK1806134490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Jun 90

["Report from the front"]

[Text] According to a report from Kompong Thom Province, in an obstinate attempt to prolong the civil war in Cambodia, at 0930 on 17 June the Cambodians on the other side sent their forces—700 to 800 men—in a six-prong thrust into Kompong Thom Province.

Thanks to their position of strength and victory and with their resolute determination to ensure security for the people, our Armed Forces valiantly counterattacked the enemies, defeating them and causing them to retreat in great shame back into the jungle. During their retreat, some enemies who were in great panic took off their clothes and disguised themselves as local inhabitants. The result is that we killed 56 enemies, captured four others, wounded 82, and seized 34 assorted weapons.

According to news sources in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, on 12 and 13 June the Cambodians on the other side sneaked into Angkor Chum District. They arrested and killed our innocent people in a barbarous and cruel manner. Out of their anger over this enemy crime, our people joined hands with our Armed Forces in attacking these enemies. We killed two of them and wounded some others.

In their sweep operations against the Pol Pot bandits, our Armed Forces in Chikreng District killed 39 enemies and destroyed two weapons of the DK type.

All these victories clearly attest to the position of strength and victory of our Armed Forces. They expose the warlike nature of the Cambodians on the other side who have persisted in prolonging the misery of the Cambodian people.

Sok An Notes Control

BK1906100690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0930 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Hanoi, June 19 (AFP)—Cambodian Government forces were firmly in control of the key provincial seat of Kompong Thom and resistance guerrillas took heavy losses in fighting near the town, a senior Phnom Penh official said Tuesday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An, reached by telephone in Phnom Penh, said he and Defence Minister Tie Banh had earlier Tuesday discussed the situation in the central Cambodian town, which two of the three resistance factions claimed to have captured on Sunday. "I can tell you very clearly that Kompong Thom is under our control," he said, adding that the resistance guerrillas had been "bearing a lot of losses" in fighting around the town, located 160 kilometres (100 miles) north of the Cambodian capital by road. Mr. Sok An said, without elaborating, that the enemy "didn't even puncture the furthest (defence) belt of our city." [passage omitted]

SPK Reports Mat Ly's Tour of Kompong Som

BK1706055790 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0147 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 15 Jun (SPK)—Mat Ly, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and vice chairman of the National Assembly, recently toured Kompong Som City, 250 km southwest of Phnom Penh.

Mat Ly, also chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions, appreciated the tireless efforts of the city to ensure local defense and security and also the all-around development achieved by the workers and people in restoring the national economy during the past 11 years. He also pointed out the current situation of the Cambodian revolution, and in particular the results of the peace negotiation conducted by Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, in Tokyo with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, aimed at finding a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

"Despite the enemy's perfidious attempts to reverse the revolution and reimpose the genocidal regime in Cambodia, the party and government of the State of Cambodia continue to show goodwill aimed at immediately ending the suffering of the Cambodian people which [words indistinct] support from countries the world over", Mat Ly stressed.

Pracheachon Terms Tokyo Communique 'Victory'

BK1806101990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Pracheachon editorial: "The Tokyo Joint Communique Is a Splendid Victory"]

[Text] With the goodwill to live in peace, the Cambodian party and state have for the past two years put forward a national reconciliation policy aimed at pooling all forces in order to rebuild the country and end the Cambodian people's suffering. They have thereby gained growing and stronger support from national and internal circles.

At the Tokyo meeting, consent by the two contending Cambodian parties to sign a joint communique was another significant victory. The tendency is to acknowledge the reality, that the Cambodian problem is a conflict between, on the one hand, the Cambodian people and their government who are fighting to prevent the return of the genocidal regime and, on the other, the genocidal Pol Pot clique and its supporters within the tripartite Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. Therefore, the attempt made by the Sihanouk and Son Sann side to show that there are four Cambodian factions in order to shirk their responsibility for conspiring with the Pol Pot clique, was shattered for the first time by the recognition, both de jure and de facto, that there are only two Cambodian parties.

The Tokyo joint communique has become the three important foundations on which the Cambodian opposition and other forces involved are brought before the door of reality to peacefully settle the years-old Cambodian conflict. The step to take consist of merely having the courage to accept the responsibility, to open that door, and to resolve the problem to its completion. The other alternative is to spurn it so as to continue the bloodshed against their own people. In that case, Samdech Sihanouk, Son Sann, and their allies will have to bear the full responsibility.

The genocidal Pol Pot clique represented by Khieu Samphan has for the first time been isolated because of its ambitions to sabotage the peace process, ambitions they can no longer disguise under whatever pretext.

The Cambodian people—led by the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] and the Cambodian Government—have seen clearly that their own truthful nature and goodwill spearheaded by their KPRP and government has won sympathy, support, and success. The Cambodian people continue to hold the peace banner aloft and to pursue the line of peace in their effort to eradicate the misery and suffering caused by the war spawned by the other side. We will continue to step forward courageously as people and combatants who have been heroically defending the motherland. The Cambodian people highly appreciate the responsible task of Comrade Chairman Hun Sen and his delegation, who have constantly adhered to the wishes of the people and the KPRP at all meetings.

Sihanouk Urged To Respect Tokyo Communique

BK1906045290 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0418 GMT 19 Jun 90

["Sihanouk and Son Sann Should Have the Courage To Carry Out the Tokyo Joint Communique"—SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 18—In his declaration dated June 15 and released to reporters in Beijing where he is currently staying, Prince Sihanouk changed his mind by not putting into practice the joint communique he had signed with Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia.

Prince Sihanouk said he was not to blame for the failure to observe the Tokyo joint communique and to convene the supreme national council [SNC] before the end of July, 1990, because Son Sann has proposed calling a meeting of representatives of the warring factions ahead of talks on Cambodia next month among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Everybody knows that in his nine-point proposal dated April 9, 1990, Prince Sihanouk stressed his attempt to set up a "supreme national council," symbolizing the unity, independence and sovereignty of the State of Cambodia, which is to consist of six representatives of the Government of the State of Cambodia and six representatives of the CGDK [Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea], and this is precisely what the Tokyo join communique aimed to achieve.

Son Sann himself also agreed in Tokyo with the content of the joint communique, but now he is seeking a pretext to block the first meeting of the S.N.C. by claiming what was not defined in the Tokyo joint communique.

For his part, Prince Sihanouk appears to be ignoring his signature to the joint communique in a bid to undermine the process of peace and national reconciliation.

Both Sihanouk and Son Sann are trying to neglect the Tokyo joint communique because the Khmer Rouge Polpotists are turning a blind eye to the document.

Should Prince Sihanouk and Son Sann remain hostages to the Khmer Rouge Polpotists who want to continue the war and cause more suffering to the Cambodian people?

If the Khmer Rouge Polpotists still want to prolong the bloodshed in Cambodia, one wonders whether Prince Sihanouk and Son Sann have the courage to carry out the Tokyo joint communique for a political settlement of the Cambodian conflict for national reconciliation in Cambodia or they will tail after the Khmer Rouge?

In order to rapidly stop the hostilities, reach an overall political solution and achieve national reconciliation, the Government of the State of Cambodia has already named six representatives to the S.N.C. The people of Cambodia urge that all the 12 members of the S.N.C. be nominated to represent the two governments in settling the Cambodian issue.

Commentator on Political, Economic Situation

BK1506011790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jun 90 p 6

[Editorial by Jacques Bakaert under "Kampuchean Diary" rubric titled: "Political Pluralism and Economic Survival"]

[Text] At the end of May several high- and mid-ranking officials were arrested in Phnom Penh because, AFP and other reports said, they wanted to form a new liberal political party. There were even rumours of a coup, as some people claimed that the dissidents were planning to take advantage of the trip to Tokyo by Prime Minister Hun Sen to seize power. Not many people believe in the coup theory, but no one denies that maybe as many as 40 persons have been detained.

In a sense it is surprising that it took so long for such an attempt to take place or to come out in the open. The ruling People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea (PRPK) which has been the real local power in Cambodia since January 1979, was built along traditional Marxist-Leninist lines, a political colouration that certainly does not reflect the wishes of the entire population of the country.

There have been, of course, many reforms, mostly in the economic field, during the past two years. The liberalisation of the economy, though, was not followed by radical changes in the political outlook of the nation. During most recent trips to Cambodia, in January and April, I made a point to ask party officials, especially in the provinces, if anything had changed in the role of the party since the changes made to the Constitution in April 1989. The answer was always the same: Nothing has changed, the party is still fully in charge.

Where answers widely diverged, though, were with regard to ideology of the party. Some people told me the party was still Marxist-Leninist, others insisted that Marxism had been useful in the past but had been discarded. A few cadres explained that the party was now in favour of the people getting rich. One general told me that ideology did not matter, or that people could believe whatever they wanted.

But one fact remains unchanged: The party is in charge. This is most noticeable in the provinces, where local party cadres sometimes enjoy vast power.

Even if one can believe in anything, in Marx or in big profits, the PRPK is an organisation that in the eyes of many Cambodians either has outlived its usefulness or should not be there in the first place. The vast majority of the people do not want communism or socialism. And they often wonder what is exactly this party that liberalises the economy but prints the face of one of Cambodia's great communist revolutionaries, Song Ngoc Minh, on the new 1000 riel bills. A party that now encourages Buddhism but celebrates Lenin's birthday as if the Soviet autocratic leader was one of the country's most revered holy men. Add to this short list the fact that the PRPK seems—on the record at least—to have points of views that exactly duplicate those expressed by the Vietnamese Communist Party.

So it should not come as a surprise that a majority of the intellectuals, of the men and women working in the various administrations or in some army positions, have often considered the creation of a different kind of party.

Among the men arrested last May was Minister of Transport, Posts and Communications, Ung Phan. His case is exemplary because there was nothing in his past to suggest he was a "bourgeois reactionary," as they like to say. According to his official biography he joined the revolution in 1970, but later broke with the Pol Pot wing of the Communist Party and probably went to Vietnam in 1977. He occupied important functions in the party before becoming minister in August 1988.

It will be interesting to see how Phnom Penh treats the dissidents, because it is relatively unclear what kind of offence they have committed. It will also give an indication of the political flexibility of the regime.

There is opposition to the party, there is also opposition inside the party. Several groups exist, and there are prominent, senior party leaders who are beginning to be increasingly critical of the corruption of some top officials. As one member of this internal opposition said recently, "Corrupt officials in Phnom Penh and even more so in the provinces, are a direct threat to our national security." The source added that corrupt practices were a major reason for the recent Khmer Rouge success in gaining support among the rural population. The source said honest officials were now increasingly becoming victims of corrupt cadres.

Among those whose prestige among the population seems to be growing are personalities like the chairman of the National Assembly and politburo member Chea Sim and Interior Minister and alternate politburo member General Sin Song. The Interior Ministry plays a growing role in national defence, as special police units are frequently called to assist or even replace the Army in defending strategic areas.

The regime as a whole also faces serious financial problems. According to several diplomatic sources in Phnom Penh, as much as 80 per cent of the budget of the State of Cambodia has in the past been subsidised by the socialist bloc. The Soviet Union continues to supply arms and ammunition but former socialist countries are taking a much more critical approach of their relations with Phnom Penh. In the future, relations will be based less on solidarity than on realism. A senior Foreign Ministry official of a former socialist country told a Western visitor, "We have lost most of our political concern for Cambodia. We have very little for sale that they can buy, they have nothing that interests us."

Most East European countries take an extremely critical view of the way past subsidies have been utilised by the Phnom Penh regime. Already during the celebration of

the 10th anniversary of the revolution, in January 1989, several then-socialist countries sent fairly low-level delegations to Cambodia, as an indication of their frustration with the regime. "In the past 10 years the regime has spent a lot of funds on political activities, on party propaganda, on party offices. This is a waste of money," a senior East European diplomat said at the time of the anniversary. But he admitted that bad advice from other socialist countries was partly responsible for the waste.

Tax collection is still a shaky affair, and will remain so in the near future. To overtax private business will only create more resentment with little profitable result. The best answer to the financial survival of the country is of course peace. But that, it seems, and alas for the people of Cambodia, will not come very soon. The defence budget will still consume most of the country's resources for a while.

It is significant, in this context, that Mr Hun Sen send rather conciliatory signals to the Khmer Rouge, after they failed to ratify the Tokyo document on ceasefire and self-restraint. But as the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea continues to make progress, it is doubtful the Khmer Rouge will be in a hurry to compromise further. Sources in the French capital said the French authorities are willing to host a second Paris conference, but want to make sure it has a reasonable chance of success. And they insist on proper preparation.

SPK Cited on Activities in Week Ending 2 Jun

OW1406203090 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Hanoi 14 June (VNA)—In the week ending June 2 the Cambodian Armed Forces in Svay Chek and Pajonggnm Banteay Meanchey Province, 340 km (?northwest) of Phnom Penh, wiped out [word indistict] enemy troops, captured five, and forced 24 others to surrender, reports SPK.

They also seized 34 guns and a quantity of other [word indistinct] materials. In the period of three days ending June 6, the Armed Forces in the province of Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Siem Reap, Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham annihilated nine Khmer [word indistinct] troops, wounded 28, captured three enemy intelligence [words indistinct] and received 15 misguided people.

Phnom Penh Reports 3-9 Jun Battle Activities

BK1606020890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] In order to join in celebrating the coming 39th anniversary of the traditional day of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and the army-people solidarity day, our Armed Forces in all regular, regional, and militia units and our police forces have heightened revolutionary vigilance, always been ready to fight, and fought valiantly to check all subversive maneuvers and activities of the enemies—thus ensuring security for the people. During the past week, our Armed Forces conducted vigorous counterattacks against the enemies and inflicted heavy defeats on them. As a result of the operations launched from 3 to 9 June, we put out of action 239 enemies, including 46 killed, 181 captured, and 12 others who surrendered. We also seized 86 assorted weapons, a field radio, and a large quantity of war materiel.

In the counterattack launched against the enemies on 5 June in the forested and mountainous areas in Amliang and Trapeang Chey, we killed nine enemies, captured 179 others, and seized 74 assorted weapons and a large quantity of war materiel.

Phnom Penh Reports 4-10 Jun Battle Activities

BK1806141190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In the week between 4 and 10 June, our Armed Forces put out of action 493 enemy soldiers, including 48 killed, 253 wounded, 181 captured, and 11 others who surrendered. We seized 86 assorted weapons, 1,976 rounds of assorted ammunition, five packages of TNT explosive powder, a role of explosive fuse, 66 [words indistinct], a recorder, two field radios, and two compasses; destroyed three shelters of the Pol Pot clique's 18th Division; and seized a large quantity of documents and war materiel.

In the same week, our fraternal people and authorities in Kompong Thom provincial town distributed 600 bundles of food to our Armed Forces at the front.

VODK Carries Communique on Kompong Thom

BK1906025490 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Jun 90

["Press Communique on Attack and Liberation of Kompong Thom Town"; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. Kompong Thom Town was attacked and completely liberated by the national resistance forces at 0500 on 17 June 1990. Along with this, we attacked and liberated the district township of Kompong Svay, five km west of Kompong Thom Town, as well. Moreover, we also attacked and liberated Phnum Santuk area and Kakaoh commune, south of Kompong Thom Town.

2. The complete liberation of Kompong Thom, Kompong Svay District, and the network defending Kompong Thom Town is a spectacular achievement scored by our national resistance forces. Why is it spectacular? Because Kompong Thom Town is far away from the border and supply sources. However, the fact that our comrades-in-arms were able to liberate the town is a wonderful exploit.

3. The combatants on Oddar Meanchey, north Sisophon, Siem Reap, Battambang, Leach, and Pursat battlefields

should learn from the examples of the comrades-in-arms on Kompong Thom battlefield and in Kompong Thom City. Thereby they should intensify their efforts to attack and liberate their respective battlefields as quickly as possible. They should simultaneously fight in the military, political, psychological, and economic fields.

4. Combatants on other battlefields which are closer or far from the supply sources should also vigorously attack the Vietnamese enemies and puppets militarily, politically, psychologically, and economically. It is important to cooperate with the people as well as compatriot Cambodian soldiers, officials, and militiamen, who are against the Vietnamese enemies and puppets, in fighting the enemies with all possible means and tactics.

Resistance Spokesman Presents Angkor Area Plan

BK1906011890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 18 Jun 90

["17 June Statement of the National Government of Cambodia's Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Establishing the Angkor Area as a Peaceful Zone"—read by announcer]

[Text] The National Government of Cambodia [NGC] wishes to spell out its position on establishing the Angkor area as a peaceful zone as follows:

1. Over the past 11 years, the Angkor area, like the whole of Cambodia, has been mostly destroyed by the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets. In particular, the Vietnamese and puppets have plundered a great many pieces of sculpture from the Angkor Temple and other ancient monuments, which are the Cambodian national patrimony. Those antiques were shipped to Vietnam or put on sale in the international markets. The Vietnamese and puppets have conducted destructive activities by firing, shelling, and excavating many parts of the Angkor Monument. This is the policy on decimating the Cambodian national culture in line with the Vietnamization policy of Cambodia. Trees in the vicinity of monuments have also been felled down and trucked to Vietnam.

2. The Cambodian National Resistance Forces [CNRF] and the NGC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk have repeatedly brought this issue to the world attention. The CNRF and NGC have done their utmost to preserve various liberated ancient monuments. Moreover, in our operations on Siem Reap battlefield, we have never done anything affecting the Angkor monuments or conducted fighting within the Angkor Monument vicinity.

The objective of our present and future struggle is only aimed at liberating our Cambodian nation. This includes the Angkor Monument and other ancient monuments under the Vietnamese control, which are the historic heritage of our Cambodian nation and mankind.

3. The NGC and the CNRF have repeatedly suggested that the Angkor area be established as a peaceful area. Now, we wish to reiterate that the Angkor area should be established as a peaceful zone and that the following concrete measures should be taken:

1) All troops and armed forces should be withdrawn from Angkor area, including all the Vietnamese aggressor troops stationed in the forest of the Angkor vicinity and in the Angkor Monument.
2) Personnel of a UN international control mechanism [UN-ICM], with the participation from the four Cambodian parties, should be stationed in the Angkor area in order to verify and prevent the presence of all armed forces in Angkor.
3) After the withdrawal of all armed forces from Angkor area and the stationing of the UN-ICM staff, the NGC welcomes the international community to help restore and preserve the Angkor Monument.

VOK Reports Dismissal of Phnom Penh Officials

BK1906081490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] The Vietnamese-installed Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime in Phnom Penh yesterday [18 June] said that it has sacked three senior officials, including a member of the Political Bureau and a cabinet minister, in a move to crack down on reform-minded leaders. The expulsion was a crackdown inflicted by the Heng Samrin regime on liberals and advocates of a multiparty system that began with the arrest of a liberal cabinet member last month.

Khieu Kanharit, editor of the Heng Samrin regime's newspaper KAMPUCHEA, who was expelled on Saturday [16 June], said: This is a warning to all liberals.

Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Communist Party, said the leadership of the regime propped by the Vietnamese also dismissed Minister of Health Yit Kimseng and Mrs. Men Sam-an, a member of the Political Bureau of the regime.

PRC's Xu Dunxin on SNC Representatives

BK1906012290 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jun 90 p 7

[Text] Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin said yesterday that the Supreme National Council will lack meaning without the participation of Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia and resistance prime minister Son Sann.

Mr Xu made the statement yesterday after meeting Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan at the Foreign Ministry. In response to a question whether the Supreme National Council would work or not, Mr Xu said: "You can see that Prince Sihanouk is not joining the SNC. And since this is the case do you think the SNC will have meaning?"

Prince Sihanouk and Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen signed an agreement in Tokyo calling for a military self-restraint on the part of the four warring factions and

linked it with the formation of a Supreme National Council. The SNC, according to the agreement, is supposed to be convened and formed at the end of July. The SNC was supposed to comprise six representatives of the Phnom Penh government and six from the resistance—two each from the three resistance factions.

The Khmer Rouge, which did not attend the meeting, have refused to abide by the agreement after which Prince Sihanouk announced that he would not be a part of the council. Nationalist leader Son Sann has named two representatives to the council but not himself. The Sihanoukists have also named two representatives to the council.

Mr Xu said that since Prince Sihanouk is a leader whom all Cambodians respect, his decision not to join means that the council cannot be a Supreme Council. It was agreed earlier that the council would be represented by "prominent Cambodians."

Mr Xu said China sees that the four warring factions must be represented in the council, adding that how the warring factions are represented depends entirely on the Cambodians. China only wants to see the four factions represented in the SNC, he said.

During his meeting with Mr Praphat and other top ministry officials, Mr Xu outlined the results of his recent meeting with top Vietnamese officials in Hanoi. Mr Xu told the officials that China and Vietnam still disagree on details concerning the role of the United Nations in a resolution of the Cambodian conflict and the SNC, sources said. Vietnam has expressed support for the SNC as announced in Tokyo while China has refused to accept the results of the Tokyo meeting because of the non-participation of the Khmer Rouge. Beijing also wants the SNC to have control over five ministries—Defence, Interior, Information, Foreign Affairs and Finance while Vietnam wants the Phnom Penh regime to retain control of the administration.

Mr Xu, said the sources, believes that Vietnam adopted a more hardline stance during the recent meeting because of the results of the Tokyo meeting.

After Deputy Vietnamese Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem visited China, Chinese officials agreed to another meeting in Hanoi because Vietnam had shown signs of flexibility prompting Mr Xu's visit to Hanoi. Mr Xu told Thai officials that there are no further plans for the next Sino-Vietnamese meeting.

He told the officials that a "wait-and-see" attitude should be adopted regarding the results of the Tokyo talks. If there is only a partial solution, then peace will not last in Cambodia, the sources quoted the minister as saying. China also wants all four warring factions represented at a meeting with the permanent five members of the United Nations Security Council which is due to meet in Paris on July 9.

Mr Xu briefed former defence minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut and leaders of the Cambodian resistance, Mr Son Sann, Prince Norodom Ranaiddh and Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan over the weekend on the result of his talks with Vietnamese leaders.

DPRK Foreign Minister Thanks Khieu Samphan

BK1606021090 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Here is the text of the reply message from His Excellency Kim Yong-nam, vice premier of the State Administration Council and foreign minister of the DPRK, to His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Cambodia in charge of foreign affairs.

To His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Cambodia in charge of foreign affairs:

I would like to express sincere thanks to you for your warm congratulatory message sent to me on my appointment as vice premier of the State Administration Council and foreign minister of the DPRK. I am convinced that the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries will further strengthen and develop. May you always enjoy successes in your work.

[Signed] Kim Yong-nam, vice premier of the State Administration Council and foreign minister of the DPRK

[Dated] Pyongyang, 9 June 1990

Laos

Instruction Issued on Constitution Meetings

BK1806103690 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Instruction issued by the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Secretariat "on the campaign to organize discussions on the draft constitution among cadres and people"; dated 14 June 1990]

[Text] Attention: All ministries, equivalent committees, and party committees of all provinces and municipalities.

The first phase of the implementation of the party Central Committee Secretariat instruction No. 21 on the opening of the movement to organize discussions on the draft constitution has so far been completed, and the second phase of the movement is now started. According to observations made in many provinces by the Constitution Drafting Committee and reports received from various localities, the party Central Committee Secretariat has noticed that the propagation of the draft constitution among cadres and people has yielded some good results. The people of all strata have expressed their support for the draft constitution. People in many localities are elated to have the opportunity to voice their opinions on the draft constitution. This is something that they never experienced under the old regime.

In the initial stage, people in various areas showed their interest in certain issues such as questions pertaining to faiths, ethnic tribes, freedom of domicile and travel within the country, national emblem and flag, and others. The opinions expressed by the people at the initial stage reflect the legitimate aspirations, the sense of patriotism, and love for the new regime of our people as well as their sense of responsibility toward the compilation of the constitution. The people in various areas have dared to lodge complaints against violations of their right to mastery and infringement on their lives and property by cadres, soldiers, policemen, and party and state organizations in their localities.

Sectors and party committees at all levels, realizing the significance of the draft constitution discussion campaign, have paid attention to organizing and training key cadres and guiding the discussions on the draft constitution in the areas under their responsibility. However, there are some problems that must be solved in a timely manner. For example, the majority of sectors and localities do not know the proper process of the campaign. In many cases, cadres and people were called to a meeting—usually lasting only a few days—to raise questions and hear the answers. In many areas, questions and answers were simply handed to the people to study. By so doing, the people were not given enough time to study the draft constitution thoroughly, and thus they were unable to contribute their views. Many localities even organized meetings for cadres and people to study the draft constitution and criminal laws at the same time, and not much time was allocated for discussing details of the draft constitution.

The most basic problem is that cadres, soldiers, policemen, and people were not encouraged to exercise their democratic right and freedom of expression. Consequently, they dare not report abuses of power and violations of the right to mastery and democratic freedom of the people by cadres, soldiers, policemen, and party and state organizations. Offices, organizations, and military and police units are reluctant to admit the mistakes they made against the people, thus failing to improve relations among the party, state, and people, which is the main objective of this campaign.

These phenomena might stem from the fact that party organizations at all levels are not imbued with the guidance provided in the party Central Committee Secretariat's instruction No. 21 dated 30 April 1990, which stipulates that the campaign for discussions on the draft constitution is aimed at enriching political life and extensively promoting democracy. For this reason, they failed to encourage the people to freely express their views. Either out of haste or fear of interrupting the people's production, party organizations made each meeting as short as possible by presenting questions to the people to answer. By so doing, the people might not have had enough time to think and give their opinions, thus preventing them from contributing their views to the draft constitution and demonstrating their spirit of enthusiasm.

In order to fulfill the objectives and expectations of the campaign as prescribed in the instruction, the party Central Committee Secretariat instructs all ministries, equivalent committees, provinces, and Vientiane Municipality to revise the process of the campaign as follows:

They must firmly follow the guidance of instruction No. 21 dated 30 April 1990, which clearly says that the campaign for discussion on the draft constitution is aimed at enriching political life and extensively promoting democracy. In organizing discussion meetings on the draft constitution, attention must be given to the promotion of democratic rights. The people's right to mastery must be enhanced from the first day of the meeting. The draft constitution must be thoroughly studied and discussed. The people must be allowed to express their views; criticize each other; and criticize cadres, soldiers, policemen, and party and state organizations so as to improve relations at all levels among the party, state, and people. Cadres, soldiers, policemen, people, and party and state organizations at all levels must follow this instruction.

The way questions and answers are presented must be revised. Two or three questions may be presented each time so cadres and people will have more time to study them and give opinions. Times for the meetings must be revised. For instance, morning and afternoon meetings—each lasting about two or three hours—should be arranged so that families can take turns attending. Every attempt must be made to enable the people to attend the meetings without having to skip their farm work. The meetings must not be held in haste.

The draft constitution discussion campaign should be completed in all provinces by the end of July as prescribed in the earlier instruction of the party Central Committee Secretariat. On the last day of the discussions, the people should be allowed to criticize each other and report on the performance of cadres, soldiers, policemen, party and state offices and organizations in their areas. The results of each meeting must be reported to the next higher echelon as earlier instructed.

Ministries, equivalent committees, provinces, and municipalities are instructed to study this instruction and make corrections accordingly. All provinces should dispatch cadres down to localities to make similar corrections, and should not call them back because it is a waste of time. Any problem arising from the implementation of this instruction must be reported to the party Central Committee Secretariat through the regular line of command for timely guidance.

Article 13 of Lecture on Draft Constitution

BK1806131990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0030 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Radio lecture on draft constitution given on 8 June by Chaleun Yiapaoheu, alternate member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, standing

member of the Supreme People's Assembly, and standing member of the Constitution Drafting Committee—recorded]

[Summary] Today, I will continue the discussion on the contents of the draft constitution.

"Article 13—the last Article of Chapter I—stipulates that the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] pursues the foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and nonalignment. It promotes friendly relations and cooperation with all countries on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence and respects each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. It also promotes non-interference in the internal affairs of others, equality, mutual benefit, and persistent support for the world peoples' struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress."

There are only four important terms in our foreign policy—peace, independence, friendship, and nonalignment. "This policy displays the good intentions of our state toward the international community."

Why has the draft constitution stipulated the article's contents in this way?

1. It is the aspiration of the entire Lao people to be friendly to all people throughout the world. We have good intentions toward all friendly countries throughout the world regardless of the differences in our political systems so long as we respect each other's independence and sovereignty. Our relations are based on the principle of mutual benefit.

2. It is necessary for us to acquire support, sympathy, material and spiritual support and assistance from all friendly countries. This is aimed at defending and building our new regime and turning our country into one with genuine peace, independence, democracy, unification, and prosperity.

3. It is the common desire of our people to live in peace and independence and to develop mutual cooperation and assistance with other countries. This is because our country was ravaged by the aggressive war of the imperialists for several decades. Laos "does not want to be dependent on any military groupings." As a small country, Laos has never invaded any country. The Lao people have cherished, are cherishing, and will cherish peace and national independence forever.

Phoumi Vongvichit Congratulates Yemeni President

BK1306102690 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Vientiane, June 13 (KPL)—Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], on June 12 sent a message of congratulations to the president of the council of the Republic of Yemen.

The Lao acting president described the declaration of uniting the two Yemeni republics into one, as the Republic of Yemen, as a historic event of great importance in rallying unity of the nation.

He expressed the conviction that the friendly relations and solidarity between Laos and Yemen would be further developed in the interest of the two countries' peoples and of world peace.

Philippines

Envoy Comments on Future U.S. Access to Bases

HK1906095790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 18 Jun 90 pp 1, 8

[By Staff Writer Julius Fortuna]

[Text] The Philippines, which grants Americans extraterritorial rights under the 43-year old RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA), will deny the United States unhampered access to its six military bases in the country in a new bases pact, Ambassador to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez has said.

"If we have to continue our security alliance, the United States must not have sovereign rights in the Philippines," Pelaez said in an interview published in KATIPUNAN [ASSEMBLY], a U.S.-based Filipino newspaper.

"No more unhampered access. We will control their access," Pelaez said, referring to the privilege granted to the United States by almost all countries hosting US bases.

Pelaez aired his views on the recently-concluded talks in an interview with Jon Melegrito, a bases expert and writer for KATIPUNAN.

Philippine and American committees are now drafting a proposed treaty that would replace the MBA in preparation for the second round of the exploratory talks on the future of the U.S. military bases here. The talks are scheduled for August.

Pelaez observed that Washington's intention to maintain its traditional supremacy in the Asia-Pacific region is now an "anachronism".

He agreed with Foreign Secretary Raul B. Manglapus, who as chief Philippine negotiator in the recent talks, questioned the premise of mutual security in the MBA. "It (MBA) is not for mutual defense but to protect American interests in the region," Pelaez said.

But he conceded that some of American military presence in the region was still necessary to fill the vacuum that would result from an abrupt American withdrawal.

He supported the Philippine panel's view that any agreement extending the bases' lease must be in the form of a new treaty. "We must talk about a new relationship that removes any traces of lingering colonialism," Pelaez

said. He compared the MBA to "an old house that we tried to improve but it never...was satisfactory to us. Now, it must be scrapped."

On May 15 this year, the Philippines served a notice of termination of the MBA which has allowed the presence here of Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Base and four smaller military installations. At the end of the five-day exploratory talks, the Philippine and U.S. governments agreed to hold more discussions on a broad treaty that would include provisions for a new arrangement on the use of the American military facilities.

Pelaez, who tried but failed to negotiate the first amendment in 1956, said that the new treaty should revolve around the framework economic and social cooperation, national interests, security, peace and friendship.

Such a treaty, he said, should allow a "period of adjustment" and should rule out immediate dismantling because this would disrupt RP-U.S. relations.

The new broad treaty "will be a positive contributor to the formation of a new balance of power in the Pacific, but not dominated by the United States," Pelaez said.

Manila To Keep Representative in Korean DMZ

HK1906100990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 18 Jun 90 p 6

[By staff Writer Julius Fortuna]

[Text] Manila will keep its representative in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in Korea despite efforts to forge ties with Pyongyang, Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus said over the weekend.

"I don't think our representation in the United Nations Command in Korea should be used as a bargaining chip in our developing ties with North Korea," Manglapus said in a press briefing.

He said the country's relationship with both North and South Korea is bilateral and should not relate to multilateral arrangements like the country's commitment to the United Nations. The Philippine representative in DMZ is posted on the side of the United Nations and South Korea.

Manglapus made the statement before an interparliamentary delegation led by Rep. Jose de Venecia (LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats], Pangasinan), chairman of the committee on foreign affairs of the House of Representatives announced Saturday that Pyongyang wants to establish diplomatic relations with the Philippines.

In May, a Korean delegation from Washington working for the reunification of the bisected peninsula hinted in a press conference in Manila that the Philippines should withdraw its delegate from the UN Command in South Korea as a condition for normal Manila-Pyongyang ties.

Jihoon Lee, director of the neutral Korean Resource and Information Center, said that the Philippines continues to send a Filipino colonel to the DMZ despite the end of the Korean War.

Manglapus and foreign diplomats interviewed by the GLOBE had confirmed that the Philippines continues to be committed to the UN Command. The Philippines sent 5,000 troops to the Korean peninsula in the early 1950s in support of a U.S.-sponsored resolution to repel an invasion by North Korea to South Korea. Several thousands of Filipinos died in one of the century's bloodiest wars. Among the Filipinos who survived was Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, then an army lieutenant.

Experts said that North Korea and the Philippines are technically at war because no peace treaty has been forged when the war ended in 1953.

Mangalpus said that although the trip of De Venecia was not an act of the executive branch, he said he had taken up the matter with other congressmen.

The GLOBE has learned that some Filipino diplomats are hurrying up background studies on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Congressional Leaders Endorse Ties With Taiwan

HK1806063690 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Jun 90 pp 1, 16

[By Rodolfo Villa-Rodriguez]

[Text] Congressional leaders endorsed yesterday the Philippines' opening of diplomatic relations with Taiwan, saying the island republic deserves Philippine recognition after it responded favorably to the Aquino government's call for foreign investments and played host to some 50,000 Filipinos now gainfully employed in that country.

The Philippines adheres to a One-China policy, recognizing only the People's Republic of China, but maintains trade and cultural relations with the island republic.

The employment opportunities open for Filipinos in Taiwan and the pending RP [Republic of the Philippines]-Taiwan relations measure were discussed yesterday by congressmen, Quezon City officials, civic leaders and mediamen at a meeting of the Quezon City Breakfast Club. Among the panelists were Taiwanese envoy Tah-Jen Liu, Rep. Cornelio Mascarino (LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats], Davao City), Rep. Gualberto Lumauig (Ind., Ifugao), Rep. Herminio Aquino (LDP, Tarlac), Rep. Rodrigo Gutang (LDP, North Cotabato), Dr. Antonio Santos and businessman Toriano A. Brazal.

Ambassador Tah-Jen Liu, the highest-ranking official of Taiwan in the country, welcomed the forum as an opportunity for them to ventilate their side on the China

controversy even as he cited that their position would not conflict with that of the People's Republic of China (PROC).

Liu likewise revealed that there are around 50,000 Filipinos who officially entered Taipei as tourists but are now working in various firms and are extended special protection despite the absence of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Mascarino explained the need for the Philippines to adjust to the demands of the times even as he said that Taiwan has the requisites needed for a state to be recognized: the presence of people, government, a territory, and sovereignty.

Mascarino noted that Singapore has a limited land area with small population but it commands international respect. Latvia, which has only three million people, and Lithuania, with a smaller population, are recognized worldwide and now seeking independence from the Soviet Union. Whereas Taiwan has a distinct government, a definite territory, more than 20 million people, and is a sovereign state, and thus should be given special consideration by the Philippines, he added.

The congressman noted that South Korea maintains trade and commerce relations with the United States and the Soviet Union while North Korea has no complaints about Seoul's trade relations with the Soviet Union.

Congressman Lumauig said that due to the employment opportunities awaiting Fiipinos in Taiwan and its massive local investments, it would be advantageous for the Filipino people if the government establishes "diplomatic ties" with Taiwan.

Tah-Jen Liu disclosed that some $2 billion in investments await the country in the next two years if only the Philippine government would guarantee investment protection and other incentives for Taiwanese business in the country.

Kabisig To 'Thwart Bureaucracies in Action'

HK1806081290 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0230 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] President Aquino said that the Kabisig [Partnership] movement will thwart bureaucracies in action and political sabotage of governmental programs and projects shaping up for the 1992 election fever, adding that the war against poverty will continue as will the present call for a partnership between the government and people under the Kabisig movement on four major areas of concern, such as the agrarian reform, ecological and national resources protection and preservation, and governmental decentralization. She said that the movement, now drawing support from various groups, will be pushed by three pillars: the national government, the local government units, and the citizenry through people's organizations.

Speaking on her regular weekly radio-TV program Magtanong Sa Pangulo [Ask the President], Mrs. Aquino said that she has learned of people's fears about the 1992 elections fever threatening to block government-people participation in the implementation of various projects, as many officials could only be thinking about the elections instead of doing their jobs well. She said that many people have complained to her and would like to address these problems to the other officials of the different bureaus in government.

Aquino Approves Alcohol, Tobacco Tax Bill

HK1906052590 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 19 Jun 90 p 8

[By Reporter Ros Manlangit]

[Text] The 15 percent to 20 percent increase in the price of beer, cigarets, and other alcohol and tobacco products will take effect next month following yesterday's signing by President Aquino of Republic Act [RA] No. 6956, the controversial law raising the tax rates on the so-called "sin products."

RA No. 6956, the first in the list of a tax package intended to generate P4 billion [pesos] in additional revenues for the government this year, has prescribed a 15-day period after formal publication allowing liquor and tobacco firms to quote the new prices.

Malacanang yesterday released copies of the new law which is expected to generate P 3.4 billion in annual revenues from alcohol and tobacco products alone to enable the government to trim and anticipated budgetary gap of about P17 billion by yearend.

The new rates as specified in RA No. 6956 are:
—Distilled spirits from sap of nipa, coconut, cassava, camote, and sugar cane—P4.00
—Distilled spirits produced in a pot still by a distiller producing not more than 100 liters daily, containing not more than 50 percent of alcohol by volume, per proof liter—P1.56
—Distilled spirits other than those produced from the above raw materials—P35.00
—Sparkling wines—P26.00
—Still wines with 14 percent of alcohol by volume or less—P3.00
—Still wines with more than 14 percent of alcohol by volume—P8.00
—Fermented liquor, an ad valorem tax equivalent to 50 percent upon the effectivity of this Act and 60 percent six months thereafter of the brewers' wholesale price
—Locally-manufactured cigarets bearing a foreign brand—55 percent
—Other locally-manufactured cigarets—45 percent
—Imported cigarets—65 percent

Congress ratified the bicameral conference committee version of the bill last June 7.

Concepcion To Go Abroad for 'Health Reasons'

HK1806061290 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 18 Jun 90 pp 1, 8

[By staff writer Butch Fernandez]

[Text] Trade Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr. has asked to be excused from further hearings conducted by the Senate Blue-Ribbon committee because he has to go abroad for medical treatment, the GLOBE learned over the weekend.

Sources in the Senate said that Concepcion, facing simultaneous but separate investigations in Congress, is leaving later this week for the United States for "health reasons".

The embattled secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) informed the Blue-Ribbon committee last Friday that he will undergo "minor surgery" but did not give details.

Concepcion is being investigated for his alleged involvement in the controversial P1 billion [pesos] loan application of the Luzon Petrochemical Corp. (Luzon) and his divestment of shares in his family's business enterprise, the Republic Flour Mills (RFM) Corp.

In a separate interview, Sen. Wigberto Tanada, committee chairman, confirmed that he allowed Concepcion to leave "for humanitarian reasons" after appearing in just one more hearing tomorrow on the socalled petroscam. Tanada said Concepcion did not say what exactly his ailment was and which part of his body will be operated on. "Perhaps, we will decide later whether to call Concepcion to testify again after he has recuperated," Tanada said. According to the senator, Concepcion promised to appear anew at the resumption of the Blue-Ribbon Petroscam inquiry this week to submit documented evidence of his RFM divestments.

Reports attributed to unnamed sources said last week that Concepcion would be asked by Malacanang to go on indefinite leave for health reasons. The reports (not in the GLOBE) said that this would give Concepcion a chance to make a graceful exit in the wake of demands for his ouster or resignation.

It was gathered that Concepcion failed last week to comply with his earlier pledge to submit to the Senate committee by Friday authenticated copies of his RFM stock transfer certificates to prove that his divestments were legal. At the close of the Blue-Ribbon session last Wednesday, the DTI chief's private counsel, Eduardo de los Angeles of the Mabanta Law Office, sought a deferment of Concepcion's submission of evidence. De los Angeles told Tanada that his client needed at least 24 hours' notice to get the stock transfer documents from the Far East Bank and Trust Company. Tanada agreed to give Concepcion until Friday last week. But Concepcion asked to be given at least four more days to gather the required divestment documents. The Senate Blue-Ribbon committee secretariat told the GLOBE that Concepcion wrote the committee on Friday seeking another deferment of his submission of evidence up to tomorrow. Concepcion, in the same letter, advised the committee of his travel plans, the secretariat also confirmed.

Concepcion, along with Presidential Coordinating Secretary for Economic Affairs Vicente Jayme and Central lBank Governor-designate Jose Cuisia Jr. were implicated by ousted Philippine National Bank (PNB) chairman Joker Arroyo in the Petroscam. Arroyo, a long-time ally of President Aquino, was fired as PNB chairman and Philippine director in the Asian Development Bank (ADB) at the height of his Petroscam expose. Mrs. Aquino named Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon to replace Arroyo at the PNB and appointed Jayme to take over Arroyo's ADB post.

Jayme, who was reported to have gone abroad last week, was accused by Arroyo of conspiring with Concepcion to induce local banks to grant the syndicated P1 billion loan to Luzon, a local subsidiary of the Taiwanese-owned USI Far East Inc. Arroyo claimed the loan smacked of the Marcos behest loans.

Cuisia came under fire from Arroyo for endorsing Luzon's dubious financing scheme which, the former Executive Secretary claimed, would have enabled the Taiwanese investors to earn $20 million in net profit but would result in a $25 million foreign currency loss for the Philippine government.

Concepcion, who is also chairman of the Board of Investments (BOI), has yet to clear the doubts raised by members of the Blue-Ribbon committee about his claim that he fully divested himself of ownership in the RFM when he joined President Aquino's Cabinet in 1986.

At the same time, Sen. John Osmena deplored the "attempted forgery" of Concepcion's divestment records which has been described as a "crude attempt" to manipulate the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) into coming to the defense of the beleaguered DTI secretary.

"We will confer with SEC chairman Rosario Lopez on what punitive action to take against the perpetrators of this anomaly," Osmena, a member of the Blue-Ribbon committee, said.

Court Sentences Congressman for Arms Possession

HK1806054090 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] The Pasay City Regional Trial Court has sentenced Representative Nicanor de Guzman to a 17-year imprisonment because of illegal possession of firearms. He will be jailed with businessman Ponciano Datu, who is also involved in the case. Regional Trial Court Judge Fermin Martin was interviewed over the radio:

[Begin Fermin recording] The decision was based not just on the act itself, but a *combination of several acts done by the accused, both accused, personally, and for them by others who did it with their obvious knowledge and consent. For instance,* the congressman's godchild admitted checking in the luggage. But De Guzman claims he was not aware of it. According to the judge, his godchild in marriage, Susan, is not an agent. Why was she in possession of the passports and tickets not only of the congressman, but also of Ponciano Datu? She says she does not know the latter. How could she have their documents?

Secondly, the luggage was loaded in the plane and was *under the name of Congressman De Guzman as a first class passenger.* An excess rate of 419 U.S. dollars was paid in his name, yet he claims he does not know it. The Philippine Airlines duty manager in Los Angeles said this is done if the luggage is accompanied by the passenger. He saw the boxes identified with the name De Guzman loaded into the plane.

The prosecution and the defense admit *that these nine boxes, balikbayan [overseas Filipinos] boxes, arrived at Ninoy Aquino—that they contained hundreds of firearms, ammunition, and firearm [word indistinct].*

Both say they did not know each other until now—as they face the court. But 14 witnesses claim they saw them talking to each other, and the congressman gave orders to Datu which the latter carried out. Another witness saw Datu remove the baggage tag and hand it to De Guzman.

The congressman was pleading with a colonel, a squadron commander, to take care of his men.

One of his children was covering his name written on the boxes with masking tape. This was inside the exmination room.

There was a moment when he was nervous and his hands were shaking so much that the documents dropped to the floor.

Before he left, he told his son, as he handed him some money, to give some amount to the other person.

In short, the combination of all the circumstances and the personal acts, as well as the acts of others for them with their knowledge, convinced the court that they were in conspirancy. But this was already agreed upon, a common design on their part, to bring the firearms without authority from law. [end recording]

Ramos Says Reporter Member of Communist Movement

HK1606085890 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Jun 90 p 11

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos yesterday said the tabloid reporter who was taken into military custody was a member of the communist movement with a cash reward for her arrest. Vilma Manzo, a reporter of the tabloid "Ang Balitang Bayan" [NEWS OF THE NATION] was covered by a defense department order offering cash rewards for leaders and members of the Manila-based communist movement. According to Ramos, Manzo is a member of the Manila-Rizal regional party committee with a P15,000 [pesos] reward. She belongs to the propaganda committee. Her membership in the movement was suspected by the military when she began writing for "Ang Balitang Bayan" whose abbreviation ABB corresponds to communist hit squad in the city, Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB).

Ramos confirmed reports that Manzo was on the military's wanted list but denied the existence of an order of battle of journalists with close links with the communist rebels. "I c gorically deny that there is a list of journalists in the military's order of battle for communist rebels in Metro Manila," Ramos told reporters at Villamor Air Base after he arrived from a visit in Mindoro Occidental. Manzo, the defense chief said, was in the order of battle dated January 25 this year. Her name appears number 71 in the list of 246 suspected rebel members in Metro Manila.

Ramos' disclosure came a day after Manzo filed human rights complaint against Ramos and Air Force intelligence agents for alleged torture. But Air Force spokesman Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Avelino Abiol denied Manzo's charges.

Manzo was reported kidnapped two weeks ago but it turned out that she was picked up for questioning by an Air Force Intelligence group. She was later released but complained that she was tortured by her captors. She also claimed that her captors had shown her copies of an order of battle listing several known journalists, like former National Press Club [NPC] president Antonio Nieva, former NPA secretary Sonora Ocampo and several others.

She was accompanied by her lawyers to the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to file illegal detention charges against Ramos and other senior military officials.

Manzo is also an alleged distant relative of a known communist leader in the Southern Tagalog region, Leopoldo Mabilangan, alias Ka [Comrade] Hector, the head of the Meliton Glor Brigade, the sparrow unit in Quezon, Batangas, Laguna, and Cavite areas, the military said.

Eduardo Cojuangco Charged Anew, Posts Bail

HK1506031790 Baguio Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0230 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Former Marcos associate Eduardo Cojuangco was ordered arrested yesterday by the Sandiganbayan [anti-graft court] in connection with a new graft case filed against him. The case filed by the PCGG [Presidential Commission on Good Government] accused Cojuangco of inducing President Marcos to buy shares of stocks in

BULLETIN Publishing Corporation. Cojuangco was required to personally appeal and post a 100,000-peso bail bond.

Late yesterday, Cojuangco [words indistinct] Sandiganbayan and post bail, and had his fingerprint samples taken. Cojuangco's lawyer, Estelito Mendoza, described the new charge as old hat.

[Mendoza recording indistinct]

Survey Shows Dissatisfaction With Government

HK1506032090 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Jun 90 pp 1, 8

[By correspondent Rempto Anda]

[Text] Increasing poverty is making more and more Filipinos from all social classes dissatisfied with the government, President Aquino's popularity is declinig and Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos is the Cabinet member with the highest margin of satisfaction. These were some of the findings of the semi-annual nationwide Public Opinion Survey by Ateneo de Manila University.

The survey results, released yesterday, said the majority of the respondents perceived that the quality of life to have been worsening: 45% of the respondents described their lives as "worse." In February of last year the figure was 39%, and in 1988, it was 33%.

Respondents gave President Aquino a popularity rating of 48%. In February and August last year, the rates were 63%, and 57%.

Among the Cabinet officials, Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos had the highest margin of satisfaction, with 52 percentage points.

Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr. suffered a plunge in performance merits, from +54 percentage points two years ago to +23 percentage points in March 1990.

The survey was done in March, with 1,200 respondents randomly selected from among the various social and income brackets.

Among the other findings were that the December coup attempt was unpopular, but 46% of the respondents said it was necessary, if only to jolt the government into performing better.

Also, the recent talks on the future of the U.S. military bases led more people to favor their removal under varying conditions. But 41% of the respondents still favored their indefinite retention.

The survey was presented by the Ateneo president, Fr. Joaquin Bernas, to an audience of media representatives, academics and religious groups.

According to the survey, only 21% of the respondents said they expected their lives to improve next year, compared to 30% last year and 32% in 1988. Optimism was apparent only in the urban area of Cebu, but dejection was widespread in rural Visayas and Mindanao, the survey noted.

A majority (59%) of the respondents described their household earnings as inadequate. Only 42% found their earnings adequate.

Most respondents (67%) said livelihood opportunities in their communities were inadequate. In the rural areas, 75% of the respondents found livelihood opportunities inadequate.

Economic programs headed the list of measures which the respondents said they wanted the government to take. Second on the wish list was new jobs, followed by improvement of agriculture and then peace and order.

Most (78%) said the government should concentrate more on economic programs geared towards self-reliance. Only 19% favored more foreign investments.

There were more respondents who thought that the coup attempt happened because of the rebels' discontent with the government, than felt the plotters simply wanted to grab power (24% and 20% respectively). But only 2% of the respondents said that the coup attempt was correct and that the plotters should have succeeded.

The survey showed that the percentage of those favoring immediate withdrawal of the bases did not change significantly over the last three years. Some 30% of the respondents remained undecided.

Vice President Salvador Laurel was regarded as the least credible of government officials. Laurel, whose Ateneo survey rating in 1988 was +39, received a 11 [figure as published] margin of satisfaction this year. He had +19 in February 1989 and +10 last year, the survey noted.

Concepcion, who suffered the most dramatic erosion in credibility, recorded +23 margin of satisfaction, compared with +54 in 1988.

Most of those surveyed said the Cabinet revamp that followed the December coup attempt was necessary to improve the government.

The survey results' ratings of the House and Senate showed no marked change during the past three years. Of those polled, 36% said they were satisfied with the Senate while 30% said otherwise. Of the House, 39% said they were satisfied while 29% said they were not.

Congressmen Seek Recognition of Communist Party

HK1906095190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Congressmen Jose de Venecia and Miguel Romero will spearhead a campaign in the Lower House seeking formal recognition of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] as a political party and allowing its members to take part in elections.

According to Congressman De Venecia, the recognition of the CPP will pave the way to stronger unity among organizations sharing common convictions for national progress.

Congressman De Venecia, along with Congressman Romero, has just arrived from Pyongyang, North Korea, where they held talks with Prime Minister Kim Il-song, who gave assurance that his country does not support CPP-NPA [New People's Army] activities in the Philippines. De Venecia also declared that the campaign for formal recognition of the CPP as a political party will encounter severe criticisms, but he expressed the hope that the campaign will lead to national unity.

Military Predicts Collapse of NDF in Europe

HK1606040390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Jose Maria Sison, chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP], may be expelled from the Netherlands after the Netherlands Government discovered the communist movement's criminal network in the Netherlands and other European countries.

Military authorities claimed that this information came from government agents in Europe. Reports indicate that the Netherlands Government now believes that development assistance which it sent to the country through National Democratic Front [NDF]-affiliated organizations has been transferred to the New People's Army [NPA].

Consequently, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] officials expect the collapse of the CPP's European network and the decline of its leaders and members operating in the Philippines.

Ranking Communist Leader, Wife Arrested

HK1606085490 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 16 Jun 90 p 13

[By Carla Gomez]

[Text] Bacolod City—A ranking communist rebel leader and his wife were arrested by policemen along a busy street here yesterday afternoon. Nabbed were Alfredo "Buboy" Atienza, alias Inyong and Reggie, 38, a member of the executive committee of the Negros Regional Party Committee and secretary of District 2, and his wife, Teresita Maghinay, alias Melba Teray, 39, who also acts as his deputy secretary. Atienza carried a P100,000 price for his capture.

Lt. Col. Nicholas Torres, Bacolod police chief, said the arrest of the couple was a major setback to the rebel movement in Southern Negros because it would create a vacuum and affect the recruitment and planning of the NRPC.

District 2 covers the CHICKs (Cauyan, Hinubaan, Ilog, Canduni, Kabangkalan, and Sibalay) area in Negros Occidental and Mabinary, Negros Oriental, Torres said.

Torres said Atienza was responsible for fielding all Sparrow Unit hit men in urban areas. He added the presence of the couple in Bacolod could mean that something vital to the CPP/NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines—New People's Army] is being worked out.

The couple denied having anything to do with the military arm of the rebel movement and the fielding of Sparrows as well as knowledge on the abduction of the Japanese development worker Fumio Mizuno in Murcia town on Ma6 29. However, police sources said the presence of such high-ranking rebels in the city is believed connected to the Mizuno case. However, Mrs Atienza said she and her husband had come to Bacolod to visit their children, one of whom is sick.

Rebels Said 'Eyeing' Bicol as Coup Launch Site

HK1806062890 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 18 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Military authorities yesterday disclosed that rebel soldiers were eyeing the Bicol Region as a "staging point" for another coup attempt against the government.

Rebel leaders like cashiered Army Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Gregorio Honasan, Air Force Lt. Col. Eduardo Kapunan, Navy Commodore Domingo Calajate and PC [Philippine Constabulary] Lt. Col. Victor Batac—organizers of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) and the pro-Marcos Soldiers of the Filipino People (SFP)—were reportedly frequenting the area to recruit members, the military said.

Honasan and Calajate are from the Bicol region.

Col. Noberto Lina, PC-INP [Integrated National Police] Region 5 commander, said they had received intelligence that "wanted coup leaders are contacting lots of young military officers obviously luring them to their cause."

"The (rebel soldiers) are concentrating in Bicol because of the presence of big Armed Forces units here. Bicol is now believed to be one of the places marked as staging points for another destabilization move against the government," Lina told PC-INP chief Maj. Gen. [Major General] Cezar Nazareno.

Some military officials in Bicol said officers and soldiers in the area were potential recruits because they felt "betrayed" by Bicolano public officials.

After the meeting with Lina, Nazareno immediately launched "Oplan [Operational Plan]: Tiger Orchid" to thwart the rebels' plans.

Nazareno told commanders to have their men to report recruitment efforts. The plan includes other countercoup

measures such as intensified intelligence work and constant dialogues between commanders and their men.

Officer Affirms RAM Recruitment in Region 11

HK1306092590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0800 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Angie Delfino from Davao City—italicized portions in English]

[Text] Brigadier General Mariano Baccay, Recom [Regional Command] 11 chief, affirmed the existence of recruitment activities by RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces Movement—Soldiers of the Filipino People] headed by rebel leader ex-lieutenant Colonel Gringo Honasan, in a bid to realize its objective of toppling the present administration. Baccay revealed that two officials under his command were involved in the RAM effort to recruit members. However, he did not give their names pending ongoing investigation.

[Begin Baccay recording] *Our sparrows here have already transferred to Manila. And, of course, we had our share of sparrows from the early 80's until 1985 and so I can imagine the effect of these wanton killings in Manila, although the impact will not be as great as the impact that we had here before because we are a relatively smaller place compared to Manila. At least the terror effect in Manila has dissipated because of the size and the huge population that are there.*

Now, we also have our share of threats from the coup plotters from the rightists and there is information that Noble comes to Region 11 every now and then. We have not been fortunate to arrest him while he was here, if it was true indeed that he was in our area. And we monitor suspect personalities anywhere, and any metropolitan areas, like Davao City, have its share of suspected supporters of rightists. Of course, we have CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army]. The southern terrorists were also present, although they are small in numbers compared to the NPA's. We have the most number of NPA fronts in Mindanao. Region 11 has had the most. Out of 18 fronts, at the last count, we have 12 in Region 11. [end recording]

Baccay also confirmed that YOU [Young Officers Union] and RAM is one and the same, adding that most of the members are nonofficers and enlisted personnel. He warned that anyone under his command who joins RAM will be severely punished. He also said that any planned coup d'etat in his area will not succeed because his forces are always prepared against any eventuality.

Rebels Recruiting Agusan del Sur Tribesmen

HK1606091190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Jun 90 pp 1, 10

[By staffmember Carol Arguillas]

[Text] Tibi-Tibi, Kapalong, Davao del Norte—Ultrarightist rebels have recruited and armed about 3,000 tribesmen in Agusan del Sur, near the boundary of Davao and Bukidnon, a tribal chieftain said yesterday.

Datu Jose Libayao, executive tribal chieftain of the United Tribal Councils, said the rebels, led by renegade Col. [Colonel] Alexander Noble, promised the tribesmen representation in such government bodies as the Office of the President and Congress.

Lieutenant Colonel Ricardo de Leon, Davao del Norte provincial commander, told the CHRONICLE that 24 tribal leaders in the province had been approached recently by the rebels, who offered to train the tribesmen as Civilian Armed Force Geographical Units (Cafgus). De Leon said that around 100 of the tribesmen would have agreed, had not their leaders been warned by Gov. Prospero Amatong that rightists were using Cafgu training as a ruse.

Last month, Roque Agton, regional director of the Office for Southern Cultural Communities (OSCC) said that some 2,000 Higaonon, Manobo and Matigsalog in the boundary of Agusan Sur-Davao Norte-Bukidnon and Surigao Sur had been trained as Cafgus by the rightists, who also gave the recruits free food and paid them P1,800 a month.

Datu Jaoquin Sugatan of Mambago said that Datu Libayao sent him to Agusan del Sur to verify reports of recruitment in the area. Sugatan said that Noble's forces had trained contingents of 100 men from each of 12 sitios in Loreto, Agusan del Sur and some parts of Bukidnon. He added that the tribesmen had been given some firearms, which he estimated at 380 Garand rifles and carbines. The tribesmen were also being paid P1,500 [pesos] each. Sugatan brought back rebel manifestoes allegedly distributed in the area.

Undersecretary Jose Lopez of the OSC Communities appealed to the tribesmen not be taken in by the rightists. But he said that the naivete and ignorance of the tribesmen, as well as government's neglect of their plight, made them easy prey.

Editorial Skeptical of Young Officers' Union

HK1506032290 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Jun 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Taking a Long, Hard Look at YOU"]

[Text] After denying outright the existence of the Young Officers' Union or YOU, the defense/military establishment last week indicated it believed the group not only exists but also poses a threat to government, which is why it was offering cash rewards totalling P 1.5 million [pesos] for the arrest of seven YOU members.

Apparently, the military's view of the YOU as a mere "organizational myth," a "spin-off of the RAM (Reform the Armed Forces Movement or Revolutionary Alliance for the Masses)," "clone of the RAM," and "son of RAM," has undergone some changes, with assessments now acknowledging that the YOU could be an "entirely

distinct organization from RAM born out of the desire of junior members to seek their own identity."

The YOU has formally disavowed any links with coup plotters, the RAM among them, and professes to forsake a coup d'etat as the means to achieve its ends. Still, as a recently-concluded INQUIRER Special Report on YOU, quoting a military intelligence document, warns, "There is the distinct possibility that YOU may again allow itself to be utilized by the RAM to attain the latter's objectives of grabbing political power via another coup attempt."

For now, though, the YOU leadership studiously avoids creating any impression that it is part of a long-range plan to grab state power, stressing instead their mission to offer a "non-communist alternative to imperialism, fascism and communism" inspired by nationalist ideals and taking as its special area of interest corruption among the higher ranks of the military.

The last would seem to be the YOU's most potent issue, one it could easily exploit in its recruitment efforts as junior officers and the rank-and-file are daily exposed to the venalities of many of their superiors.

Thus, while the military recognizes that the YOU lacks the "necessary force" to challenge the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], the group could still undermine the entire leadership structure and chain of command with a well-documented expose on corruption. And, as the special report points out, "in a moral confrontation, the YOU will definitely have the upper hand."

What are the Filipino people to make then of this shadowy, amorphous group that purposely keeps its organization "formless and informal" and seeks to develop a "broad mass-oriented united front," avidly recruiting members from the military, youth, labor, peasant, business, professional and media sectors?

On the one hand, thoughtful observers might welcome the growing acceptance among military officers of the principle that the Armed Forces exist to serve the nation and to protect the interests of the people, not to protect a foreign power or the wealth of the elite. A group of young officers serving as a moral force and watchdog against senior officers abusing their positions would also be most desirable, if only to arrest the deteriorating morale of the soldiery.

On the other hand, the Filipino people may have had enough of self-proclaimed reform groups that start out professing to serve the nation, but end up, once in power or having had a taste of it, seeking to impose their own oppressive policies on the populace.

We might give YOU, for now, the benefit of the doubt, so long as it remains true to its rejection of the use of force, especially through a coup d'etat, to win power. But we believe it is also wise to maintain a healthy measure of skepticism regarding the group, until it proves itself equal to its stirring rhetoric and lofty aims.

NEDA Approves P25.4 Billion for Projects

HK1406052190 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 14 Jun 90 p 8

[By reporter Ros Manlangit]

[Text] The National Economic and Development Authority [NEDA] yesterday approved the implementation of nine development projects worth P25.431 billion [pesos].

Approved was the $735-million (P16.905-billion) Calabarzon (Cavite-Laguna-Batangas-Rizal-Quezon Province) special development project [SDP] which will be implemented over a 10-year period.

NEDA Director General Cayetano Paderanga Jr., who made the presentation to the Cabinet, said the Calbarzon SDP is expected to generate about $2.7 billion in investments and create some 340,000 jobs from firms which have expressed interest to locate in the area. Its implementation, Paderanga said, would spur the development of the Southern Tagalog region as a major agro-industrial site. To accelerate the development of the region, the NEDA board, which is chaired by President Aquino, also approved the Southern Tagalog development framework yesterday.

The board also approved the implementation of development projects totaling P8.526 billion. These include the Metro Cebu development projects II (MCDP), P2.855 billion; upgrading of the technical capabilities of the provincial governments for road maintenance works, P1.080 billion; reevaluation of the communal irrigation development project II (CIDP II), P1.626 billion; maritime safety improvement projects Phase I, P981.946 million; EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue]-Ortigas-Shaw-Boni interchange projects, P534.68 million; Metro Manila road pavement rehabilitation project, P466.51 million; Masbate roads, P294.24 million; and the Pagadian City-Cotobato City road, P686.48 million.

The MCDP II project involves the rehabilitation of 57.73 kilometers of urban roads and 142.15 kilometers of rural roads, and the construction of 43.3 kilometers of new urban roads in metro Cebu. It also includes the rehabilitation and construction of six bridges along the project roads.

The CIDP II involves the construction of 10,000 hectares of new communal irrigation systems, rehabilitation of 15,000 hectares of existing systems, and completion of ongoing work under the CIDP I covering 5,850 hectares. It also includes the implementation of various programs to make the National irrigation Administration more effective and efficient.

The maritime safety improvement project is a three-phased program entailing the procurement of two units

of search and rescue vessels, rehabilitation of 28 lighthouses along the Manila-Cebu major trunk route, and a study on the overall investment plan for the maritime safety improvement program.

The EDSA-Ortigas-Shaw-Boni interchange projects include the ESDA-Ortigas grade separation; EDSA-Shaw grade separation, and the construction of an overpass along Shaw Boulevard; and EDSA-Pioneer grade separation and the construction of an underpass road along Boni Avenue with four-leg access roads to EDSA.

The road pavement rehabilitation project involves the rehabilitation of 87 of the 172 major road sections in Metro Manila covering 223 kilometers.

The Masbate roads project involves the improvement of the double bituminous surface treatment standard of two national roads in masbate—the 13-kilometer Malinta to Milagros Road and the 90-kilometer Mobo to Placer Road.

First Quarter Import Growth Rate Tapers Off

HK1406053490 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 14 Jun 90 p 8

[By researcher Grace C. Sison]

[Text] The country's imports, after exhibiting double-digit increases last year, registered slower growth as of end-March, indicating a tapering off in economic activity.

This can be gleaned from the letters of credit (L/Cs) opened by importers in commercial banks as monitored by the Monetary Board, the Central Bank's policy-making body. The total L/Cs opened during the first quarter this year stood at $1,723.7 million, up by only 4.03 percent from the $1,656.86 million worth of L/Cs cleared by importers in the same period last year. This was much lower than the 38.53 percent rise exhibited in the same period last year.

Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao said a possible reason for the easing of L/C issuances is an anticipated slowdown in the economy, as individual firms defer expansion plans, while others scale down their operations.

Except for the mineral fuels and lubricants group, which fell by 41.81 percent (from $137.17 million to only $79.82 million), the three remaining groups posted minimal single-digit growth.

Other economists, however, said the slowdown in imports was expected, since the capital goods requirements of the industries seeking to expand their capacities were already met last year.

Moreover, the rapid expansion of raw materials and intermediate goods imports is also expected to slow down this year, as the goods needed for production are already in place.

With this development, analysts anticipate a continuous slowdown in the opening of L/Cs in the next few months. This, in turn, is expected to ease the pressure on the widening merchandise trade deficit. As of end-March, the National Statistics Office reported that the country's merchandise trade gap stood at $877 million, almost doubling the previous year's deficit of $442 million for the comparable period.

Among the major commodity groups, raw materials and intermediate goods continued to absorb the bulk of 55.30 percent of the L/Cs opened during the period under review. From only $883.49 million worth of L/Cs in the first quarter last year, the group's L/Cs have risen 7.88 percent to $953.14 million as of end-March this year.

A poor second and third were capital goods and consumer goods, with L/Cs opened amounting to $481.11 million and $209.63 million, respectively. Both groups showed higher L/C value levels, with capital goods jumping 8.41 percent (from $443.79 million), and consumer goods climbing 8.95 percent (from $192.41 million).

Thailand

Paper Discusses Chatchai Visit to U.S.

BK1606122190 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 16 Jun 90 p 8

[Editorial: "General Chatchai Visits the United States"]

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai finally left on a visit to the United States after having to postpone an earlier visit due to serious damage caused by typhoon Gay to the South. It seems that the timing of the current visit is not so auspicious, taking into account the political situation that arose from conflict between two ministers which threatened to force Gen. Chatchai to postpone the visit a second time.

But Gen. Chatchai successfully handled the situation and left for the visit to the United States as scheduled, leaving behind a declining stock market and a shaky political situation. The call by U.S. and foreign press for abrogation of the press control law in Thailand was another event that made Gen. Chatchai's visit not so pleasant.

Gen. Chatchai will have to answer many questions concerning those events while in the United States. But the questions about the political situation will show how well he is accepted by the international political circle. In other words, Gen. Chatchai has to perform the great duty of preserving the democratic system in Thailand in order for Thailand to gain the respect and acceptance of the world.

As for Thai-U.S. relations in Gen. Chatchai's era, the United States has stressed that Gen. Chatchai is an old

friend. He is a former Thai military attache in Washington. In any event, Thai-U.S. relations are well based and longstanding. They are not always smooth but are never hostile.

There are many issues to be discussed during Gen. Chatchai's visit, ranging from the Cambodian problem; narcotics suppression; trade disputes such as intellectual property, patent, copyright, cigarette market access; the Thai proposal to form a joint ministerial level committee on economic cooperation; and the Thai wish for an active U.S. role in Southeast Asia.

Moreover, Gen. Chatchai will play a role in helping our neighboring country Burma. Gen. Chatchai has asked the United States to be less aggressive toward Burma because Burmese cooperation is necessary to suppress narcotics in Burmese territory. A question is: Has Burma promised to do something in return for what Gen. Chatchai is doing, such as agreeing to recognize the newly elected government or promising to transfer power to the election victors?

Editor Praises Chatchai-Bush Talk Achievements

BK1806005590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jun 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Appropriate Result To Chatchai Visit"]

[Text] The achievements in talks between Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and US President George Bush last week are indeed a fitting result to a visit by Thailand's first fully-elected government leader to the United States following 157 years of friendship and cooperation.

Although no treaty or agreement was signed, the decision to form a ministerial-level Thai-US Committee for Commercial Cooperation is recognition that a new consultative framework is needed to oversee bilateral trade relations. The formation of the committee is a positive development that will give both countries a direct channel for discussion at a senior level and help prevent trade problems from becoming trade disputes with possible harmful effects on the long-established ties.

Intellectual property rights protection, for instance, is an issue that will need to be addressed. Prior to Gen [General] Chatchai's trip, the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) aired their grievances to the US Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of State and the United States Trade Representatives highlighting what they felt were Thai inaction.

In its letter, the IIPA made some serious and damaging allegations that Thai police had refused to act against pirates. More serious, was an allegation that death threats had been made against US industry representatives. A recent threat, claimed the IIPA, was made by a Thai police official.

Thailand must investigate these allegations and, if there is any basis to the claims, concrete action must be taken. As the country steadily progresses economically, it is imperative that international commitments in the realm of intellectual property rights protection be honoured.

Another crucial event during the visit was the recognition Gen Chatchai received for his Indochina policy in a Floor Statement on Capitol Hill by Senator Alan Cranston. The statement lauded the Prime Minister's initiatives, particularly, the recent diplomatic "triumph" in Tokyo and urged international support for Thai efforts.

While President Bush has said the United States and Thailand will continue to work towards a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian conflict, the United States has yet to take up the challenge posed by Gen Chatchai for Washington to play a stronger, more active diplomatic and economic role in Southeast Asia.

A more active role not only means using all diplomatic leverage possible to urge a change in the Chinese position on Cambodia—President Bush told Gen Chatchai the US did not have sufficient leverage to pressure Beijing to end the flow of arms to the Khmer Rouge—but also becoming more involved in the reconstruction and development of Southeast Asia, particularly the Indochinese states.

Editorial Views U.S. Stand on Cambodia Issue

BK1606012190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jun 90 p 8

[Editorial entitled: "U.S. Help Needed Now"]

[Text] The Chatchai-Bush talks at the White House this week once again drew the attention of the United States to the bloody conflict in Cambodia. President Bush reassured Prime Minister Chatchai that the US would continue its diplomatic efforts to end the conflict through a comprehensive political settlement. Chatchai added that Thailand hoped to see active participation by the US in the Cambodian peace process.

That process gained significant momentum when Cambodian faction leaders signed an agreement early this month in Tokyo, despite a Khmer Rouge boycott. The Cambodian leaders' agreement to form a supreme national council and to exercise restraint on the battlefield—in effect a voluntary ceasefire—is gaining international support. The outcome of the Tokyo meeting constitutes a concrete step forward, which the five permanent members of the UN Security Council must take into consideration in their ongoing discussion of the Cambodian conflict.

While the Soviet Union welcomes the outcome and the United States notes that it has some "positive steps," China still expresses serious doubts about the Tokyo agreement as its client faction, the Khmer Rouge, had no part in it. Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan walked out of the meeting to protest the seating arrangement, which put him as part of Prince Sihanouk's delegation rather than a leader of a separate faction—a convenient

excuse to avoid discussing substantive issues. The Japanese host had made it clear in advance that the meeting would be between Prince Sihanouk's resistance coalition and Hun Sen's Phnom Penh government.

But without a Chinese endorsement of the Tokyo agreement, the Permanent Five will have nothing concrete to work with other than the existing loosely-defined framework for a comprehensive political settlement and an enhanced UN role in post-settlement Cambodia. This amounts to a complete waste of all the efforts in organizing the Tokyo meeting and an open invitation to the Cambodian factions for more bloodshed.

Such a setback will be a severe blow to Prime Minister Chatchai's peace initiative, especially now that Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut—the key figure in Thailand's Cambodian policy—has quit the Chatchai administration. Without the experience and influence of Chawalit, Thailand will be in no position to accelerate the peace process.

Leaving the 11-year-old conflict unsettled will continue to threaten Thailand's national security. Even without the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, fighting between the resistance and Phnom Penh forces at the border often affects Thai villagers. The heavy influx of military weapons from Cambodia also constitutes a very serious security problem.

Many of these arms inevitably end up in the hands of opium warlords in the Golden Triangle. The Bush administration, which has made the "war" against drugs a national priority, must support the Tokyo agreement. A peaceful Cambodia would ease the flow of arms to the Golden Triangle. But so far the US has merely given lip service to a cessation of military aid to the Cambodian factions. Undoubtedly some of the US arms secretly destined for non-communist factions in Cambodia have already fallen into the hands of the opium warlords.

President Bush once again reassured Thailand of the US commitment to Thailand's security. He can show that he and his administration really mean it by playing a more active and constructive role in the Cambodian peace process. For starters, the US can show clear support for the Tokyo agreement by ending any military support, for the time being, to the non-communist factions, and by lobbying for Chinese cooperation in moving the peace process forward.

Border Trade Banned Amid 'Imminent' Fighting

BK0306031790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jun 90 p 2

[Text] Prachin Buri—The Burapha Force has issued an order banning trade along the Thai-Cambodian border effective yesterday as a preventive measure to cope with the situation amid imminent fighting between Khmer resistance forces and Heng Samrin troops near the border. According to a military field report, the order was signed on Friday by Lt-Col [Lieutenant Colonel] Charuk Malai, commander of the Tactical Battalion 123 based in Aranyaprathet District.

Under the order, Thai vendors are banned from opening trade along the border in Aranyaprathet and Ta Phraya districts. The order resulted in the closure of four black markets in the two districts where daily trade volume amounts to 500,000 baht.

The first, located in Ban Non Makmun and Ban Nong Chan in Ta Phraya, transacted trade with KPNLF [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] forces and their families.

The second market dealt mainly with Heng Samrin forces and their families living south of Poipet in Kampuchea.

The third, situated at Ban Pa Phai, Ban Wangmon and Ban Khok Sabaeng about 10 km southeast of Aranyaprathet, and the forth at Ban Khlong Namsai about 18 km south of Aranyaprathet traded with the Khmer Rouge and their families.

No Drug Charges Filed Against Police Official

BK0706004590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] The Interior Ministry's Sub-committee for Civilian Affairs yesterday approved the Police Department's proposal for dismissal with pension of former assistant police inspector-general Wet Phetbarom as a disciplinary penalty for having been involved in the drug trade.

Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha said there would be no criminal charges lodged in court against Pol Maj-Gen [Police Major General] Wet for lack of clear evidence to prove he had been involved in heroin trafficking as alleged in the United States last year.

The sub-committee agreed with the Police Department he should be dismissed over the drug scandal. The panel's decision is to be forwarded to the Police Committee for approval. However, Pol Maj-Gen Wet has a right to appeal the dismissal decision for review.

'Bust' of Floating Drug Laboratories Planned

BK0606002990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Police in southern Thailand are preparing to bust a drug-trafficking ring now producing heroin aboard large fishing trawlers in the Gulf of Thailand, a senior police officer said yesterday. Provincial authorities have called for stepped-up vigilance in the Gulf of Thailand against off-shore heroin laboratories, said marine police superintendent Lt-Col [Lieutenant Colonel] Sombat Thinratthana.

Border Patrol Police reports said "heroin producers have moved their land-based heroin refining factories onto

vessels, which could constantly change their location to avoid detection," said Lt-Col Sombat, who is based in Satun Province.

Marine police have been instructed to search all suspected vessels in Thai waters, he said, adding that searches of fishing vessels and lighter barges in the area have already begun. "So far we have not yet come across any of these floating heroin factories," he said.

The US drug enforcement administration has classifed Thailand as a "trans-shipment country," passing opium and heroin from neighbouring countries for shipment to the United States and Europe. Local drug traders usually buy raw opium from suppliers for about 1,000 baht per kilo, then process it into heroin in vessels for foreign clients, Lt-Col Sombat said.

Libya Denies Backing Radical Thai Muslims

BK1606033790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Libya has denied that it was behind the recent protests by Shiite Muslim radicals in southern Thailand or helped train Thai Muslims in terrorism and sabotage. The denial was conveyed to Mr Kopsak Chutikun, ambassador attached to the Foreign Ministry, by Libyan Ambassador to Manila Salem Muhammad Adem during a 30-minute meeting at the Foreign Ministry.

According to Mr Kopsak, the Libyan envoy who flew back to the Philippines after the discussion expressed serious concern over the allegations that his country was involved in the protests by Shiite radicals at the Kruze mosque in Pattani Province last month.

Libya fully respects the Thai Government's policy of free religion and appreciates the fair treatment of Thai Muslims, Mr Kopsak quoted the envoy as saying.

While denying that Libya provides arms training for Thai Muslims, the ambassador reportedly admitted that Tripoli had given educational scholarships and grants to Thai Muslims through various organisations in Thailand. He reportedly said that since Libya has no embassy in Thailand it was difficult to screen all the Thai Muslims accepted for training in Libya.

The ambassador said he wanted to assure the government that his country is not involved and does not interfere with the situation in the South. Libya adheres to the United Nations charter of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, he said.

The ambassador told Mr Kopsak that Libya knows that Thailand is an independent nation and his government respects this. The ambassador added that Islam is a religion that advocates peace.

Regarding measures to help screen the background of Thais going on educational or religious seminars, the ambassador said one way would be to set up a representative office in Bangkok. This could later lead to the setting up an embassy, he told Ambassador Kopsak. The ambassador, said Mr Kopsak, proposed the appointment of a permanent Libyan representative in Thailand and called for an extensive enhancement of Thai-Libyan relations.

Mr Kopsak added that Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan had accepted in principle Tripoli's invitation to visit Libya.

Iranians Deny Involvement in Shiite Rally

BK1906013690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jun 90 pp 1, 3

[Text] Iran yesterday denied any involvement in a rally by Thai Shiite Muslims at the controversial Kruze mosque in Pattani earlier this month in which protest leaders called for the establishment of an independent Islamic state of Pattani.

At a meeting with Ambassador atttached to the Foreign Ministry Kopsak Chutikun, Iranian Ambassador to Bangkok Mohammad Mehdi Sazegara [name and title as published] also categorically denied his predominantly Shiite country was involved in military and terrorist training of Thai Muslims.

Mr Sazegara was quoted as saying there was a group of people here who had bad intentions and wanted to jeopardise Thai-Iranian relations. He dismissed reports of terrorist training as "nonsense," and said the people who spread such reports wanted to create division in the country. "Iran has never interfered in Thailand's internal affairs. We do not have any reasons to do so," the ambassador was quoted as saying.

Mr Kopsak said the envoy had indicated that "Iran has no problems with Thailand," and also wished to develop all aspects of bilateral relations between the two countries. "Iran wishes to develop friendly relations with Thailand. Both our countries should also expand our economic relations," Mr Sazegara was quoted as saying.

He added that Thailand was exporting some 2,000 million baht worth of rice to Iran and his country wished to increase its investment here.

Mr Kopsak quoted the envoy as saying he hoped a Thai Government official would visit his country in the near future.

He said the envoy had also asked Thailand to believe Iran was not involved in and did not support the Shiite movement in the South. "Shiite Muslims are peace loving people and Iran does not want to create division in countries where Muslims reside. "We do not want to support terrorism," he said.

The envoy was also quoted as saying Iran appreciated His Majesty the King's patronage of all religions as well as his activities, especially those concerning Thai muslims in the South. "Muslims here consider themselves Thais and love the country," he said.

Concerning allegations that Iran was training Thai Muslims to sabotage the annual Haj ceremony in Mecca, the envoy, while admitting Iran had many enemies, reiterated it did not want to interfere in Thailand's internal affairs. "We will not use Thailand as a stage to compete with other countries," he said. "The people who have bad intentions only make claims they are receiving support form Iran. That is not the case. We do not support conflict between Shiites and Sunnis," he said.

Situation Remains Tense Among Shiites in South

BK1606015590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jun 90 p 1

[By Prayut Siwayawirot reporting from Pattani]

[Text] Many Shiites have fled the current crackdown on Muslim radicals to join secessionist movements in southern Thailand because of uncertainty about whether they are on authorities' wanted list, Muslim community leaders said yesterday.

The community leaders, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said a large number of Shiite Muslim youths had gone into hiding over the past several days after scores of members of the Muslim sect were summoned for questioning by police. "Many of them who went into hiding will end up joining the secessionist movements because no one knows whether he is on the authorities' wanted list," a community leader said.

Provincial authorities have issued warrants for the arrest of about 15 Shiite Muslim leaders believed to have been behind the riot at the Kruze mosque in Pattani on June 3, in which two police officers were attacked by demonstrators. But scores of Shiites have been asked to report to police for questioning, according to the community leaders.

—Army Commander in Chief Suchinda Khraprayun, speaking after being briefed on religious tensions in the deep South at the Ingkayuth Boriharn Camp here, said yesterday that military units deployed to Pattani and Yala would not be withdrawn until the situation improved.

The army chief told reporters he travelled to Pattani to provide moral support for local authorities who were instructed to keep peace in the Muslim-dominated provinces. "We must make sure that people who live in Thailand, regardless of their faith, abide by Thai law," Gen Suchinda said.

He said the more than two battalions of soldiers despatched to Pattani and Yala would remain stationed there at least until the end of the annual Hari Raya Haji celebration in early July. The feast is to mark the end of the Haj pilgrimage that attracts hundreds of thousands of Muslims throughout the world to Mecca each year.

—At the Kruze mosque, the scene of a violent demonstration earlier this month, more than 50 men from an artillery unit backed by four trucks equipped with machine guns sealed off the area. Radical Shiite leaders said earlier they would rally at the 300-year-old mosque again yesterday.

No one showed up at the mosque yesterday because of the conspicuous presence of the heavily-armed soldiers. Religious rites are normally performed there on Fridays. However, Lt Duang Rattanachawee, the commander of the armymen at the mosque, said his men would have allowed Muslims to perform religious rites at the mosque if any of them had come.

Senate Votes 'Outright' To Reject Cabinet Bill

BK1606032190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jun 90 p 1

[Excerpt] For the first time in the life of the current administration, the Senate yesterday rejected a government bill charging the measure "showed dishonest intention". The bill would have transferred a piece of public land in Ubon Ratchathani to a municipality.

The sinking of the Cabinet bill, which the Lower House had passed through three simultaneous readings, came as a shock since the Senate passed nine other similar bills during its morning session. The first Senate rejection of a government bill followed last Monday's tense atmosphere, when the military rallied in barracks across the country in support of deputy prime minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut who tendered his resignation the same day.

In scenes uncharacteristic of the normally docile Upper House, senators and some of the Senate whips harshly questioned Deputy Interior Minister Sano Thianthong, charging that the bill was highly irregular and indicated a dishonest intention.

In spite of a directive given all senators to vote all 10 bills on the agenda through three simultaneous readings, the Senate staged a show of dissent and for the first time voted outright to reject a government bill during its first reading with a vote of 73-28. Mr Sano presented the bill to Parliament. [passage omitted]

Chaloem Said Willing To Resign After Debate

BK1606031390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Non-portfolio Minister Chaloem Yubamrung yesterday reaffirmed he would resign if Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan wanted him to but not until after he has made himself understood in a no-confidence debate expected soon. Pol Capt [Police Captain] Chaloem declined to comment on speculation that the Prime Minister would reshuffle the Cabinet upon his return from the United States on Tuesday.

By political etiquette, Capt Chaloem said, he preferred not to forecast if any minister would be replaced because

a Cabinet reshuffle depends on Gen Chatchai's discretion. But Cabinet members should be given the chance to clarify themselves in Parliament before they resign or be replaced, he said.

Responding to news reports that the Prime Minister's son and adviser Kraisak Chunhawan has been lobbying to exclude him from the Government, Pol Capt Chaloem said he had no idea about that. He said he has not met Mr Kraisak lately.

The minister said he has not taken any move to maintain his status in the coalition government either. He said he has even rejected invitations to make public speeches in the provinces.

He said his conflict with former deputy premier Chawalit Yongchaiyut over the corruption issue should be closed now. Asked if he would "blackmail" Gen Chawalit with what might be taken for "secret evidence", Pol Gen Chaloem said he would not use any secrets as bargaining chips in dealing with anyone.

"But I just wanted to let you know that there are yet several other scenes of the (political) play to show," he told reporters without elaborating. He said career politicians like him do not attack others without hard evidence about their wrongdoings, however.

Acting Prime Minister Phong Sarasin and Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha yesterday shared the idea that there is nothing to worry about the present political situation. Stock prices have plunged only because of rumours, not facts, which made foreign investors panic and sell their stocks, according to the two Cabinet members.

Mr Phong assured foreign investors that nothing untoward would happen to them. He added the Securities Exchange of Thailand index will be bouncing back again next week.

Mr Banhan denied he had sought an appointment with Gen Chawalit.

The Interior Minister also declined to comment on news reports that Supreme Commander Sunthon Khongsomphong had asked the Prime Minister to fire Pol Capt Chaloem and Deputy Interior Minister Trairong Suwannakhiri.

Issue of MP's Holding Cabinet Posts Discussed

BK1606102190

[Editorial Report] On 15 and 16 June, two Thai papers—SIAM RAT and BAN MUANG—comment on whether cabinet ministers should be chosen from elected members of parliament [MP's].

SIAM RAT on 16 June on page 8 publishes a 350-word editorial entitled "Ministerial Posts." The editorial says: "The cabinet post has become an issue again despite the fact that there are clear stipulations in the Constitution about it. It has become an issue probably because the current government is the first one to pick all of its cabinet ministers but one from the ranks of the MP's."

The editorial goes on to say that the system of appointing cabinet ministers by quotas allocated to the coalition parties "does not guarantee that those appointed will be able and mature individuals but are likely to be ones who are party financiers or those who control a big bloc of MP supporters. This is a weakness of the current system.

"We feel that the qualifications of cabinet ministers required in the present Constitution are already good. What the government parties should do is be more selective in picking their ministers by avoiding appointing only those who finance them or control the MP's."

The 15 June issue of BAN MUANG carries a 1,200-word column by Ta Mo Lo on page 5 entitled "Accident." The column refers to the remark of the assistant army chief of staff for civilian affairs which opposes the idea of picking cabinet ministers from elected MP's and says: "I feel that if MP's are prohibited from becoming cabinet ministers, the prime minister should be elected directly by the people. The current Constitution is already quite democratic and good. Greed is the cause of the current confusion. Greed affects everyone, not just the MP's. Therefore, we must not only educate the people to 'elect good candidates' but teach them how to differentiate between good and bad politicians."

The 16 June, 800-word BAN MUANG editorial, on page 2, entitled: "Conflict of Interest and Power," says although the Constitution does not stipulate that cabinet ministers must be MP's, the MP's seem unhappy that outsiders are appointed cabinet ministers. "This selfish attitude of the MP's that wants to exclude outsiders from cabinet posts has drawn a negative reaction from the general public because the public feels that most MP's are not sufficiently educated in technical and administrative affairs, or in short, they do not have the administrative capability. We agree with this fact, but the MP's apparently do not.

"The people in general are satisfied with their MP's performing legislative duties and have no objection to them assuming administrative duties provided that they are able and serve them and the country honestly. But there are only a few such MP's and, for this reason, people feel it is necessary and suitable for outsiders to be able to join the cabinet."

Chawalit Supporters Lobby for Political Party

BK1706081490 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Former deputy prime minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut's political supporters over the past month have reportedly lobbied MPs [members of parliament] and former MPs of various parties, urging them to join a

political party to be headed by Gen [General] Chawalit to contest the next general election, Army and political sources said yesterday.

One key Army source close to Gen Chawalit admitted that political uncertainty prompted Gen Chawalit's political supporters to make the move. He claimed that certain MPs and former MPs of several political parties had been approached.

"During the past month, I was approached three times by a group of people claiming to be Gen Chawalit's supporters. They asked me to join the party to be led by Gen Chawalit," said Phibun Phongthanet, a former Narathiwat MP of the Democrat Party.

Phibun, a well-known political figure in Narathiwat, said he was told that if there was an unexpected House dissolution, Gen Chawalit would become leader of the Liberal Party which is currently headed by Col Narong Kittikhachon.

The Army sources yesterday ruled out any possibility that the former army chief will join the Chat Thai Party saying that such a scenario was unlikely. "Definitely, he would lead his own party. Whether he would form a new one or not depends on the political situation. He is ready for any circumstances. We have contacted several parties, including the Liberal Party. It takes time to form a new party. If he does not have enough time, he (Gen Chawalit) may join one of the existing parties and lead it in a general election," said one of Gen Chawalit's political supporters.

He added that if Gen Chawalit joined an existing party, he might seek to rename the party.

Chat Thai Party sources said a number of MPs in the party who have close connections with the Army were likely to join Gen Chawalit's new party. The sources said a group of Army men close to Gen Chawalit had lobbied for support for Gen Chawalit.

Phibun said Gen Chawalit stands a good chance to gain support in the southernmost area if he could recruit good members to run in the election. "He has done a lot for local Muslim people when he was in power and he hopes to get their political support," Phibun commented, adding that key local politians in Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat were working for Gen Chawalit.

Sources said former interior permanent secretary Phisan Munlasatsathon, a key supporter of Gen Chawalit, would also lobby support for Gen Chawalit in the Northeast.

Chatchai's, Chawalit's Options Analyzed

BK1706092590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Jun 90 p 6

[Article by the Political Desk entitled: "The Chatchai Administration Finds Itself Standing At a Crossroad"]

[Text] On the surface, Gen [General] Chatchai Chunhawan left Bangkok last week with "full" military support for his administration. Commanders of the army, navy and air force as well as the supreme commander smilingly posed with him for photos by the media. This enabled the prime minister to claim during his US trip that he was confident in the stability of his coalition government.

Army commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, too, has given his assurance to the country that "nothing untoward" would happen while the prime minister was away on his official trip to the US. But he declines to predict what will happen after the prime minister returns on Tuesday.

Premier Chatchai will have to try to hold his six-party coalition together to weather a looming political storm in the House of Representatives where the restless Opposition is planning a no-confidence debate. Opposition leaders will submit their joint motion for the censure on the entire Cabinet on Thursday. The debate will culminate in a vote of no-confidence against the government. After the vote, in which the government is in no danger of losing because of its numerical superiority, the prime minister is expected to effect a major cabinet reshuffle.

It is an open secret that the army wants to see PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung and Deputy Interior Minister Trairong Suwannakhiri purged from the cabinet because of their "insults" to Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and the army as a whole. Chawalit on Monday abruptly resigned as deputy prime minister and defence minister to show his disappointment in the prime minister, who did not intervene when Chaloem made veiled corruption accusations against him and Trairong indirectly belittled him by saying it was more difficult to get elected an MP [member of parliament] than appointed a general.

Chawalit joined the Chatchai administration nearly three months ago after he stepped down as army commander and supreme commander. But since he didn't join any party or win any election, other government leaders tend to see him as an "outsider." In his Monday's resignation letter, he stated that prevailing circumstances prevented him from doing his job of tackling corruption, which he described as a "chronic national problem."

The vehement responses of army officers against Chaloem and Trairong and their shows of support to Chawalit before and after his resignation amazed most observers. Few people thought there would be such strong sentimental ties between Chawalit and his former followers.

Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, one of Chawalit's classmates at the royal military academy, went as far as appointing Chawalit a "special adviser" to the three military branches, the Supreme Command, and the national Security Command. The

appointment order was read on prime time TV news on Friday evening as if it were an emergency matter.

What the appointment signifies was unclear. Maybe it was nothing more than General Sunthon's way to underline his allegiance and support to Chawalit. Commenting on the appointment, General Suchinda said on Friday he thought there was nothing "special" in Chawalit's being appointed a "special adviser" as every ex-army commander is by tradition always invited to serve on a military advisory board.

Apparently General Suchinda is trying to maintain a neutral stance in public. But undoubtedly he together with friends of the powerful Class 5 graduates of the Royal Military Academy has a big say in the future of the Chatchai administration.

While Chawalit has kept a low profile, politicians and big businessmen have been vying for his attention. Leaders of the Solidarity Party have reiterated their invitation to him to lead their party which is the largest in the Opposition and second only to the prime minister's Chat Thai Party in number of MPs. (The Solidarity has 61, the Chat Thai 96 in the 357-member House.) Heading the Solidarity's lobbying effort is Wira Musikaphong, a Solidarity deputy leader, who has made frequent visits to Chawalit's Suan Phuttan residence in recent weeks.

Even leaders of the Social Action Party, a major coalition partner, have openly invited Chawalit to lead their party too. But this is practically impossible as long as the party, which has 54 MPs, stays on in the government coalition.

At least two other groups have approached Chawalit with an idea of forming a new party. Phisan Mulasatsathon, the ex-permanent secretary of the interior, has in fact formed a new party called Thai Romyen (Peaceful Thailand) and offered to hand over his party to Chawalit.

Khon Kaen tycoon Charoen Phatthanadamrongkit, alias "Sia Leng," will reportedly call on Chawalit at his Bangkok residence today to discuss the formation [of] a new Northeast-based party to be called Kit Prachathai. The rich and influential tycoon is the financier of several MPs in northeastern provinces. He says he can ask these politicians to join Chawalit's party in the next general election.

So far Chawalit holds on to his wait-and-see position. His aides have dismissed reports of an imminent announcement of Chawalit's decision to join the Solidarity or form a new party. They say Chawalit will soon release a "chronicle" detailing what happened and explaining why he quit the Chatchai administration.

Unlike Chawalit, Chatchai has no palatable options. If he purges Chaloem and Trairong after the no-confidence debate, his coalition may break apart. Chaloem, leader of the Munchon Party (five MPs), will become a formidable foe to the Chatchai administration. Forcing Trairong to resign will not be easy either as many of his colleagues in the Democrat party (48 MPs) have threatened to pull their party out of the coalition in protest.

The prime minister may resign and hope that he will be renominated to premiership by a new Chat Thai-led coalition. But his renomination is by no means certain as the Solidarity will likely support Chawalit to vie for the top government post. A defection by either the Social Action Party or the Democrat Party—or both—to join the Solidarity will suddenly push the Chat Thai out of power.

To prevent this political nightmare from coming true, the Chat Thai Party will likely urge the prime minister to dissolve the House rather than face the humiliation of losing power. The Chat Thai has reasons to believe that it can do well in a snap election this year as its secretary-general, Banhan Sinlapa-acha, is the interior minister controlling the election mechanism and local administration personnel nationwide.

The prime minister, on the other hand, has told reporters that "whatever will be, will be." But whatever will be depends very much on what General Suchinda, the army and Chawalit want.

A consensus on what is most desirable is very difficult to derive because what the military wants may not be what the prime minister and his Chat Thai party are willing to yield, like for example Chatchai's resignation instead of a House dissolution. This may be why they were all smiling to the media people at the airport last week. They didn't have any agreement on how to resolve this political crisis yet.

Weekly on Upcoming Censure Debate, Reshuffle

BK1706111190 Bangkok KHAO PHISET in Thai 11-17 Jun 90 p 3

[Article: "A Political Change Is Definite, But How To Make It Better"]

[Text] The prime minister's recent political activities were strange, starting with his attempt to link his visit to the United States with the opposition's plan to stage a no-confidence debate, which are unrelated issues.

He also created political confusion by suggesting an increase in the number of cabinet posts and division of certain ministries. Most significant was his insistence that there would be a cabinet reshuffle after the no-confidence debate. All of this could be interpreted as the prime minister's efforts to deal with the opposition's no-confidence motion, efforts that either aim at undermining the opposition or reflect his fear of the debate.

General Chatchai's symptoms lead one to conclude that the future of his government is not bright even after surviving the no-confidence debate and the subsequent cabinet reshuffle. Information picked up from places

where cabinet ministers dine indicates that the unity of Gen. Chatchai's coalition government is questionable. Gen. Chatchai's behavior has eroded his leadership of the government, and the Democrat Party is waiting for the right time to decide about its status as a coalition party.

We might see a clearer division within the government, even dissolution of the house, after the no-confidence debate.

There has been no reaction from the opposition bloc to Gen. Chatchai's remarks about an impending cabinet reshuffle. The opposition has learned a lesson after being deceived many times previously in their past no-confidence motion plans. However, it would be a good idea for a new opposition party, the Puangchon Chaothai Party, to show less interest in certain "fabulous proposals."

If the opposition bloc is well united and stable, the outcome of the no-confidence debate will shake the government and certain circles a great deal. The quality of the parliamentary system will also benefit in the process.

It can be said that the trend toward a political change is currently strong. But this is no cause for concern, because it is a common nature of the democratic political system. The important thing is how the elected politicians coordinate to make the expected political change a normal event and heighten the overall status of politics in our country.

Chawalit Meets With Armed Forces Chiefs

BK1806145790 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Because Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan is scheduled to return from his U.S. visit tomorrow, today Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphong led a team of Armed Forces commanders for a meeting with General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, special advisor of the Supreme Command and the three branches of the Armed Forces, at his Suan Phuttan residence.

The military leaders who called on Gen. Chawalit this morning were: General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander; Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin, Air Force commander; Air Chief Marshal Phisit Salikhup, Armed Forces chief of staff; and General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, deputy Army commander. Admiral Praphat Kritsanachan, Navy commander in chief, was not in the group.

The meeting lasted for more than an hour and a half. It is believed that during the conversation, Gen. Suchinda must have invited Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut to attend the meeting of the Army units scheduled for tomorrow at the Army auditorium. There was no report as to whether other matters related to tomorrow's return of the prime minister were discussed.

After the group of Armed Forces officers left, a car from the PRC Embassy arrived at Ban Suan Phuttan, presumably for talks with Gen. Chawalit on progress in the Cambodian peace settlement.

At 0930, a group of about a hundred Muslim followers from Phayathai, Minburi, Tha-it, and Bang Buathong Districts called on Gen. Chawalit to express their moral support after his resignation from ministerial posts. Gen. Chawalit appeared for a while in order to meet the group before leaving his residence for a private engagement. General Phat Akkhanibut and Khunying Phankhrua Yongchaiyut took care of the visitors on his behalf.

Wants 'Break' From Public Life

BK1906025390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Jun 90 p 4

[Excerpt] Ex-Deputy premier Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut said he wants to "take a rest" for an unspecified period in the wake of intense speculation over his political future following his departure from the Chatchai Cabinet, a senior army official said yesterday. Chawalit mentioned his desire for a break from public life to top military leaders at a breakfast meeting at his Suan Phuttan residence yesterday.

Those present were Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen Lak Salikhup, air force chief ACM Kaset Rotchananin, army chief Gen Sunchinda Khraprayun, army deputy chief Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, First Division Commander Maj Gen Watthana Sanphanit, Army Chief of Staff Gen Wirot Saengsanit, Armed Forces Intelligence Director Lt Gen Charan Kunlawanit and Gen Phat Akkhanibut, who served as Chawalit's secretary when he was deputy premier and defence minister.

Itsaraphong said Chawalit did not elaborate on his plans for a rest. "Apart from that, he talked about golf. He also gave me a golf club," the deputy army chief told reporters. Golf is a favourite hobby of senior government and military officials.

Itsaraphong said there was nothing special about the gathering of top military officers at Chawalit's residence. "We have been visiting him every Monday morning since he took over as defence minister, and we will just continue the practice," he said.

Watthana said the officers visited Chawalit as "a courtesy call."

Itsaraphong said he could neither confirm nor deny a published report that Chawalit had been invited to speak today at the monthly meeting of army officials chaired by Sunchinda. "However, the supreme commander may

raise the issue of him attending such meetings on a regular basis with commanders in chief of the armed forces," Itsaraphong said.

The monthly meeting of army officers were originally scheduled for June 25 but was moved up to yesterday because, according to army sources, many officers would be occupied with their jobs on June 25.

He said Chawalit is regarded by the armed forces as a "rare genius" rich with military experience. These talents are what led to his appointment as special adviser to the armed forces. "We have made preparations for him to play an advisory role but we still have no idea as to when he would start since he said that he wanted to take a rest first," the deputy army chief said.

Itsaraphong said there are four areas where Chawalit could contribute to the military as an adviser—internal security, foreign affairs, development of national security and the welfare of the rank and file. [passage omitted]

Opposition To Go Ahead With Censure Debate

BK1906032590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Nakhon Ratchasima—The opposition bloc will go ahead with its plan to submit a no-confidence motion on Thursday [21 June] to censure the entire Cabinet, an opposition leader said yesterday.

The censure debate will focus on two points — inefficiency and rampant corruption in the government — said Chaloemphan Siwikon, secretary general of the Solidarity Party, the biggest opposition party. Chaloemphan said the motion had been drafted and will be forwarded to the House of Representatives on Thursday, two days after Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan returns from the United States.

The Opposition will proceed with its no-confidence move despite speculation that the premier may reshuffle the Cabinet and invite certain opposition parties to join the government coalition, he said. Chaloemphan said members of the four opposition parties —Solidarity, Phalang Tham, Prachakon Thai and Puangchon Chao Thai—have agreed to endorse the censure motion.

Solidarity deputy spokesman Dusit Sophitcha said Sudnday [17 June] that Chatchai, as head of the Cabinet, will face the harshest censure for his government's failure to administrate the country effectively and for allowing corruption among Cabinet members to continue.

Even if Chatchai reshuffled the Cabinet after his return, the Opposition would still censure him because he is "the prime target" of the no-confidence move, Dusit said. "As long as Chatchai is holding the premiership, we will go ahead with the censure regardless of what he does," Dusit said.

Dusit said the opposition MPs are set for the no-confidence debate. All Cabinet members, he said, will be censured—but the degree to which individuals are challenged depends on their records.

Those facing the fiercest attacks are Chatchai, Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan, Finance Minister Pramuan Saphawasu, Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit, Agriculture Minister Sanan Khachonprasat and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, he said.

Vietnam

U.S. Senate Resolution on Relations Criticized

BK1906045790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] In its Resolution No. 273 on U.S. relations with Vietnam, which was presented to the U.S. Congress in April this year, the U.S. Senate fabricated stories about Vietnam's violation of fundamental human rights and the freedom of belief. More than that, the U.S. Senate focused its attacks on the Communist Party of Vietnam's role of leadership and on various provisions of Vietnam's penal code which was passed by the Vietnamese National Assembly in 1980. The U.S. Senate also brazenly demanded that Vietnam reform its constitution and the law, considering this a condition for the normalization of bilateral relations; otherwise, the United States would continue its policy of encirclement against Vietnam.

Resolution No. 273 of the U.S. Senate is further proof that the U.S. Administration still follows the old path of hostility toward Vietnam. Hurling slanders at Vietnam and seeking every means to interfere in its internal affairs is nothing new to the U.S. Administration. The introduction by the U.S. Senate of Resolution No. 273 at a time when the socialist countries are faced with difficulties and when our party and people are carrying out the process of renovation is a calculated, ill-intentioned act.

The United States first seeks to encourage forces hostile to the Vietnamese revolution at home and abroad to step up their opposition. It then tries to enlist the help of its allies in continuing the policy of encircling and isolating Vietnam when this policy is about to go bankrupt. This act by the U.S. Administration obviously runs counter to the new trend in international relations as it opposes not only the Vietnamese people but also the progressive American people who are demanding normalization of relations with Vietnam.

As seen by U.S. public opinion, the U.S. Senate's resolution serves no other purpose than to support Washington's policy of continuing the Vietnam war in which the United States was already defeated. We condemn all the slanders and crude acts of intervention and application of pressure by the U.S. Administration. Progressive mankind, the progressive American people included,

will surely continue to criticize and oppose this wrongful act of the U.S. Administration against Vietnam.

Precondition Called 'Insult'

BK1906122090 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Senate has sent its Resolution No. 273 to the External Relations Committee, pointing out that the normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations depends on some political conditions in which Vietnam must renounce the monopoly of the Communist Party of Vietnam. In this connection, the Voice of Vietnam has this comment:

The U.S. Senate's concept that the normalization of Vietnamese-U.S. relations must come along with some political conditions is now outmoded and at the same time an act interfering with Vietnam's internal affairs. Vietnam's internal affairs should be solved by Vietnam itself in keeping with the interests and aspirations of Vietnamse people in defending the revolution.

Worse still, the U.S. Senate's demand that Vietnam should renounce the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, considering it as a precondition for the normalization of bilateral relations, is an insult to the Vietnamese people who (?consider that) the Communist Party of Vietnam is the sole leadership of the Vietnamese revolution and are determined to foil all the moves to cross out the leading role of the Vietnam Communist Party. The Vietnamese people have flatly rejected all the conditions advanced by the U.S. Senate for the normalization of bilateral relations.

The Vietnamese people wish to normalize U.S.-Vietnamese relations but not to renounce their revolutionary (?truth) for this purpose. If Vietnam, who has the right to ask the U.S. to compensate for the losses caused by the U.S. war of aggression against Vietnam. [sentence incomplete as heard] However, so far Vietnam has never mentioned this benefit, trying to forget the past to advance to the future with a healthy relationship with the United States. It is a pity that the U.S. has not yet realized Vietnam's goodwill, and it is certain that the demand of the U.S. Senate does not represent the wish of the majority of the American people.

In fact, a large number of American people and businessmen are wishing for the restoration of the U.S.-Vietnamese relations. Many American oil companies complained that they would lose the chance to cooperate with Vietnam if the administration does not lift the embargo against this country. For that very reason, the American people and businessmen are critical of the government's anti-Vietnam policy and the Senate's demand will certainly not win the majority's approval. Public opinion in the U.S. in recent days are demanding that the administration abolish its economic embargo against Vietnam and the U.S. Senate should not impose preconditions in its relations with Vietnam. This is simply because these U.S. moves are to the detriment of the interests of the U.S. business circle.

National Assembly Session Continues Discussion

More on 18 Jun Meeting

BK1806151990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Radio correspondent Kim Cuc's report on activities of National Assembly deputies on 18 June—portions recorded]

[Summary] "In their group discussions on 16 June, National Assembly deputies discussed with a high sense of reponsibility views contributed by the people on the contents and provisions of each draft law. Today, 18 June, the Eighth National Assembly's seventh session worked in groups to discuss the draft maritime law and to amend some provisions of the criminal procedure code.

"In their group discussions on the maritime law, National Assembly deputies focused on five issues:

"First, state management over maritime activities. Second, our state policy towards private economic components taking part in maritime activities. Third, state policy to encourage foreign investment in maritime transportation. This issue was discussed seriously by National Assembly deputies. Fourth, state policy on registration of sea vessels entering and leaving Vietnam." When discussing this issue, many National Assembly deputies held that the Council of Ministers should be entrusted with the right to allow Vietnamese vessels to register in other countries and foreign vessels to register in Vietnam.

"Fifth, measures to solve conflicts in maritime activities. All National Assembly deputies reached an identity of views on this issue as specified in the draft law."

Many of them held that before discussing the draft maritime law, National Assembly deputies should be briefed on the general maritime situation to avoid being confused while discussions are taking place. In expressing their views, many National Assembly deputies suggested that the Council of Ministers recognize the right to ownership of private Vietnamese sea vessels. These vessels are, however, not allowed to operate on foreign routes. Comrade Tran Quyet, National Assembly deputy from Hanoi, said:

[Begin Tran Quyet recording] "It is the policy of our party and state to practice a multicomponent economy. Therefore, I think it is proper for us to allow the private sector to carry out transport activities within our territorial waters. As far as the maritime law is concerned, I think it is all right for us to allow the private sector to join the state as shareholders in maritime activities. We should not let the private sector monopolize maritime activities because the transportation of goods to foreign countries by sea is a an important issue that concerns not only our economy but

also our national security. Meanwhile, under present conditions, our management is not competent enough to handle this work. Therefore, we should not allow the private sector to become involved in this work yet, until, perhaps in the next three to five years when we have a better management pattern." [end recording]

Apart from the draft maritime law, National Assembly deputies discussed ammendments to some provisions of the criminal procedure code. Regarding the supplement to the extension of detention terms under item 5 of Article 1 of the draft law on cases involving national security violations, some deputies held that detention terms should not be extended for a second time. Others suggested that this should be applied not only to national security violations but also to other offences.

"The National Assembly deputies will continue their group discussions tomorrow."

19 Jun Activities

BK1906063890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] On the morning of 19 June, National Assembly deputies continued their group discussion of the draft amendments and supplements to some articles of the bill on foreign investment in Vietnam.

In the group discussion, the deputies focused on the issues of authorizing Vietnamese nationals to cooperate directly with foreign countries, stressing Article 2, point 2 that says the Vietnamese side will include one or many Vietnamese economic organizations possessing the juridical status of a legal entity and belonging to those economic sectors that are authorized to directly participate in investment by foreign countries. The problem of joint ventures involving several foreign countries will not change the form of bilateral joint ventures. The issues related to the contribution of capital to investment by and joint ventures with foreign countries and the board of management over the consumption of products of factories holding foreign investments in Vietnam stressed the rates of income taxes on joint enterprises, which are aimed at stimulating the production of domestic goods to replace imported ones. Regarding this issue, Article 26 of the current law stipulates that whether or not the tax rates of 15-25 percent on gained profits are satisfactory, they should be reviewed.

Tax Bills Discussed

BK1906125590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Radio correspondent Dao Nguyen's report on National Assembly deputies' discussions of four tax bills]

[Summary] "Over the past few days, National Assembly deputies have held animated debates on and contributed frank opinions to the four draft laws on agricultural tax, turnover tax, special consumption tax, and income tax."

Regarding agricultural tax rates, the deputies recommended three rates: 19, 10, and eight percent. As for the average paddy yields to be used for agricultural tax computations, there were two groups of opinion. The first group proposed the average paddy yield be compiled from the 1985-89 period, which was also the figure suggested by the Council of Ministers' report. The second group recommended the average paddy yield be obtained from the 1982-87 period.

As far as zoning and land classification for agricultural production is concerned, most of the deputies agreed with a seven-grade land classification chart presented by the Council of Ministers' report. As for zoning, the delegates recommended two zoning systems: a seven-zone classification and a three-zone classification.

The delegates discussed various aspects of turnover tax, special consumption tax, and income tax. Some suggested that these taxes should be grouped together; others recommended that they be kept separate. Regarding income tax, most of the delegates agreed on a uniform tax table for income earners and recommended special tax rates for state-run and collective economic sectors as well as for such services as food catering, hotels, entertainment, and others.

"Today, 19 June, the National Assembly will continue its group discussions."

Cuban News Agency Interviews Nguyen Van Linh

BK1906091690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Interview with CPV General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh by Cuban News Agency PRENSA LATINA; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] [PRENSA LATINA] Some of the important anniversaries have recently been celebrated in Vietnam: The party's founding anniversary, the South Vietnam Liberation anniversary, and President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary. Another prominent anniversary is coming up soon—the 45th anniversary of the declaration of the republic's independence. Can you tell us about the importance of this anniversary and the Declaration read by late President Ho Chi Minh on 2 September of that year ?

[Nguyen Van Linh] The Vietnamese people commemorate some major anniversaries in 1990: the 60th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], the 15th anniversary of the South Vietnam Liberation and the total victory of the anti-U.S. resistance struggle for national salvation, President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary, and the 45th anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The day of 2 September 1945 marked the birth of the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia, the new and truly democratic state of the people and for the people in Vietnam's history. It was the day when a new era started for the Vietnamese nation, ending 80 long years of painful slavery under the French colonialist regime and

the fascist Japanese occupation and thousands of years of domination by feudalism and backwardness.

At the solemn ceremony held at Ba Dinh Square in Hanoi, before half a million or more people seething with victorious impulse, President Ho Chi Minh read the historic Declaration of Independence. In that declaration, President Ho Chi Minh recalled the great idea of Thomas Jefferson contained within the U.S. Declaration of Independence: Everyone is born free and equal. Then President Ho Chi Minh asserted and elaborated that all nations are free and equal. This is an ironclad logical conclusion. President Ho Chi Minh defended the rights not only of each person but also of the entire nation. He defended not only the Vietnamese people's right to enjoy independence, freedom, and equality, but also the right of all oppressed and exploited nations in the world. This point still holds all of its epochal meaning. Our generation must continue the struggle to cooperate with the world peoples and make President Ho Chi Minh's lofty idea a reality in our world.

[PRENSA LATINA] One of the decisions made at the party Central Committee's eighth plenum was to convene the seventh party congress. What are the results of the renovation process set forth by the last party congress in December 1986? Could you tell us the achievements and difficulties in this process?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Implementing the resolution of the CPV's Sixth Congress in December 1986, Vietnam has carried out comprehensive and profound renovation. In the past three years, we have scored initial important successes. Economically, we have changed our economic policy and structure and our investment guidelines. We have focused on the production of grain and other foodstuffs and consumer and export goods. In 1989, for the first time Vietnam was self-sufficient in grain production and exported nearly 1.5 million tonnes of rice. Its 1989 export quota increased by 50 percent over that of 1988. We have advocated the policy of developing a multisectorial economy in which the leading role of state-run economy is ensured, the economy of cooperatives is developed, the family and private economies are encouraged, and all forms of state capitalist economy are placed under the control of the socialist state. All people are authorized to engage freely in production and business in accordance with law. As a result, we have mobilized many investments from various economic sectors, especially in the fields of agriculture, forestry, and maritime products.

Vietnam has basically overcome the pattern of bureaucratic centralism and management based on subsidies, developed the production of goods, and applied the marketing mechanism in combination with large-scale planning. The state has abolished price subsidization, normalized market-related trade, applied flexible rates of foreign exchange, increased the rates of interest on monetary deposits, and mobilized large amounts of the people's monetary savings. Inflation has decreased considerably and has been controlled initially. Vietnam has announced its investment law. As of April 1990, licenses have been issued to more than 140 projects involving capital of nearly U.S. $1 billion.

Politically, we have made a clear distinction between state management and production and business management as well as endeavoring to streamline the state apparatus. Democratization has seen a step forward within the party and in the activities of the National Assembly, echelons of the people's councils, and the entire society. The newly promulgated press law has created conditions for all people to openly express their ideas. The forthcoming Seventh CPV Congress will review experiences derived from the renovation process and will continue to bring these experiences into full play. Renovation is not a smooth, easy path. It is an arduous struggle between the backward old concepts and the modern new ones. It is the struggle of each individual to fulfill his assigned task, which sometimes has to be carried out in an experimental fashion before it is recognized as correct.

Our difficulty in the renovation process has been due to the fact that the country has not yet come out of the current socioeconomic crisis. There are still great imbalances in various aspects of the national economy, especially in the shortage of equipment, raw materials, and strategic materials. This issue can be resolved step by step through the acceleration of exports in order to import equipment, increase capital, and expand trade and cooperation with foreign countries.

[PRENSA LATINA] The Vietnamese people, cadres, and party members at all levels have discussed the draft program of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum. What is your appraisal of the discussion and its relation to the results of the eighth party plenum?

[Nguyen Van Linh] In preparation for the party Central Committee's eighth plenum, we formulated and made public—through the press—a draft program on party mass mobilization work. A large number of cadres and party members as well as strata of people have discussed this program and contributed their ideas. The people wanted the party to enhance its leadership and to strive to eliminate bureaucratism and the practice of distancing itself from the people. The people also proposed methods to strengthen unity between the party and the people. The party Central Committee's eighth plenum discussed these proposals in a solicitous spirit, acknowledging all the correct, appropriate viewpoints for future implementation.

[PRENSA LATINA] Why did the party Central Committee's eighth plenum clearly point out the need for an analysis of the world situation? What forms of antisocialist activities appear in Vietnam? What is the effect of the present situation on the Third World nations? How are the statements by U.S. official Solomon related to this?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Continuous delevelopments in the international arena in the recent past caused deep concern among the Vietnamese people. Our party Central

Committee already discussed and reviewed this situation in order to seek the necessary lessons and conclusions for its work. We affirm our determination to go ahead with the building of socialism and the comprehensive renovation with steady steps. We believe that the ideal of socialism will continue encouraging all nations to surge forward and that socialism will be able to overcome the present crisis.

Faced with this situation, the forces opposing and undermining socialism in Vietnam mistakenly think that their opportunity has come. Under the signboards of openness, democracy, political pluralism, and a multiparty system as well as under the covers of religion and charity, they are taking advantage of our shortcomings and difficulties to instigate youths, students, writers, and artists to oppose the party leadership and socialism. These forces have received direct support and assistance in numerous aspects from outside reactionary forces abroad. While continuing to foster democracy among the people and sincerely correct shortcomings, we will struggle uncompromisingly against these anti-socialist acts. Due to their historical characteristics, the Vietnamese do not accept opposition parties and recognize the CPV as the only force leading the revolution.

In the face of the present world situation, it is necessary for the Third World nations to unite even more closely and coordinate actively with other revolutionary and progressive forces throughout the world in the struggle to safeguard national sovereignty, oppose comprehensive dependence on imperialism, encourage economic development, and satisfactorily solve problems concerning the livelihood of workers, civil servants, and blue and white collar workers. The reactionary forces are hoping that socialism will completely disintegrate. This will certainly not happen. Socialism will continue to develop in a way that cannot be hindered by any force.

[PRENSA LATINA] What is your opinion on the role of the ideological struggle in the current situation? What is the connection between this struggle and the need for pluralism? How does the CPV guide this struggle?

[Nguyen Van Linh] The current situation has given rise to many ideological and theoretical issues. The ideological work should not only point to the errors of capitalism and the deceitful allegations and aggressive moves by imperialism, but it should also bring out the invincibility of socialist ideals and explain newly emerged phenomena in the process of socialist construction. Given the current complicated situation, there have developed correct and incorrect concepts. The ideological work must help to tell right from wrong and to protect Marxism-Leninism and other fundamental socialist principles.

It is our policy to broaden democracy, to attach importance to debates, and to take into account different viewpoints, including the opinions of the minority. We recognize the right of other comrades to stand by their opinions rather than share official viewpoints. Yet, when it comes to action, everyone must comply with the resolutions adopted by the majority. We resolutely oppose all schemes to abuse democracy for indisciplinary activities, especially attempts to set up opposition political parties. The Vietnamese people, who have gained rich political experiences, fully support our party in this struggle.

[PRENSA LATINA] Has the platform of the seventh party congress been introduced to grass-roots party organizations and mass societies to solicit their opinions? What are the main points of the platform?

[Nguyen Van Linh] The Seventh CPV Congress will discuss the party's political report, adopt the new party platform and the socioeconomic development strategy for the next 10-15 years, decide on amendments and supplements to some provisions of the party's statute, and elect the new party Central Committee. The draft party platform and draft socioeconomic development strategy, which are part of the basic contents of the draft political report, will be introduced to the entire party and people for thorough discussion. The political report will review the initial important achievements we have scored over the past four years or more of implementing the sixth party congress resolution and will derive lessons for the seventh party congress so it can further accelerate the renovation process set forth by the sixth party congress resolution.

The new party platform points out: More than ever before, the Vietnamese people are persistently carrying out socialist construction. To this end, they must use Marxism-Leninism as a compass and must secure the leadership of the Communist Party founded and trained by President Ho Chi Minh. This party has always regarded the people as the roots and has always maintained flesh-and-blood relations with the laboring people.

May I take this opportunity to convey my militant salutations to the fraternal Cuban people. It is my hope that under the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party led by esteemed Comrade Fidel Castro, the Cuban people's cause will record new victories. Venceremos [we will overcome].

Nghe Tinh Has Self-Criticism, Criticism Drive

BK1606073290 Hanoi Domestic Vietnamese 0500 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Implementing the party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution, the party organization of Nghe Tinh Province has held a self-criticism and criticism drive within the party, which aims to consolidate and improve the quality of party bases. The standing committee of the provincial party committee set forth the scope and purpose of the drive. Party bases and each cadre and party member should review their achievements and shortcomings in terms of ideology, revolutionary stand, qualities, ethics, exemplary pioneer roles, leadership, and practical guidance.

Ministry's Counterintelligence Activities Noted

BK1606143290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] The Ministry of Interior's Counterintelligence General Department met on 16 June to review the third phase of the "For The Fatherland's Security" Emulation Movement initiated to mark major anniversary celebrations in 1990.

Effectively supported by the popular movement for the safeguarding of the fatherland's security, since early this year cadres and combatants of the ministry's counterintelligence force and of the public security police, in various provinces and cities throughout the country, have in close coordination with the Armed Forces, various sectors, and mass organizations, promptly cracked down on many trouble-making and sabotage activities. They have also inspected more than 100 corporations engaged in joint ventures with foreign countries and have found 30 corporations operating without permission. They have also caught 30 persons violating Vietnamese law and discovered over 200 foreigners entering the country illegally.

The people's security forces have also discovered many spies who have taken advantage of various international organizations and corporations that have investments in Vietnam to infiltrate the country to carry out intelligence activities. The security forces have destroyed five underground reactionary organizations and captured tens of their members.

Together with other responsible sectors, the people's security forces have discovered and confiscated many documents, books, magazines, and other publications with reactionary contents, thus foiling the so-called "Campaign To Shift the Flame Back Home."

Czechoslovak Article Discusses Need for Workers

BK1706150190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Jun 90

["Excerpt" from article carried in 29 January 1990 issue of PRACA, organ of the Slovak Trade Union]

[Summary] At present, there are about 6,000 workers and 700 vocational students from Vietnam in Slovakia. All the regulations concerning labor and wages for Czechoslovak workers also apply to Vietnamese workers.

"Some Vietnamese workers who could not adapt themselves to the local social and working environment have been repatriated, but there are also outstanding workers who are asked to stay on after completing five years of work."

Asked if it is too expensive to employ Vietnamese workers, a leading cadre of a local factory said: Generally speaking, workers who have graduated from Czechoslovak vocational schools are better, but they are more expensive. Since early last year, enterprises employing Vietnamese workers have had to pay about 40,000 korunas for their air fares, language study, and job training; this amount is equal to what it would cost to train a Czechoslovak worker.

In particular, Vietnamese workers generally do not move from one enterprise to another. They work at one place for five consecutive years and are willing to work the second or third shift, on weekends, and at jobs that are shunned by Czechoslovak workers. Also, they do not need housing space for their families. Therefore, they are workers who greatly benefit the enterprise.

At present, there are some 30,000-40,000 jobs to be filled in Slovakia. "Czechoslovakia benefits from the employment of Vietnamese workers because they are helping the country generate national income and fill the shelves of local shops with goods. This surely makes many people angry, because they think Vietnamese workers buy up all of our goods. Vietnamese workers get paid for their legitimate labor. Therefore, we should not be surprised upon seeing them buy goods to send to Vietnam. Our korunas will be useless to them if they bring them to Vietnam. Besides, our sale practices and customs regulations do not make it easy for them to spend their money. The goods at our shops are not of high quality. Also, we have learned of many instances where the sale of goods was denied to the Vietnamese, even though they have the right to buy just like any other shoppers. Is this not an illegal blow? On top of this, there are also our customs regulations. What will our readers think if they know that in practice, so many items are banned from export from Czechoslovakia that it would be hard to find an item that can be exported?"

Vietnamese workers are entitled to a special provision. They are permitted to bring home a quantity of goods bought in Czechoslovakia with a total value equal to 50 percent of their income without having to apply for customs clearance and pay duty. If they bring out more than that, the excess will be subject to export duty computed at the rate of 150 percent of the retail price. Again, Czechoslovakia will not only benefit from the export of goods at retail prices without having to pay transportation charges, but will also collect a considerable amount of export duties.

"Vietnam is exporting labor to solve its own problems. However, we should not be so naive to think that we are just doing Vietnam a favor by employing its workers, for we are also solving problems we have created ourselves. Nobody knows what will happen in the future, but given the current rate of technological and industrial development, Czechoslovakia still requires a large number of workers with a relatively low level of professional skills. We have jobs to fill, and they are open to anyone. This is something that can hardly be changed in a short time."